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18 July 1991

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-sixth session
Item 24 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 18 July 1991 from the President of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to attach herewith, for your information, the Final Communiqué of the Informal Meeting of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, dated 17 July 1991 (see annex).

I should be very grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 24 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) NORODOM SIHANOUK
President of the Supreme National
Council of Cambodia

* A/46/50.

ANNEX

Final Communiqué of the Informal Meeting of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia

(Beijing, 17 July 1991)

I. The Supreme National Council (SNC) of Cambodia held an informal meeting in Beijing (People's Republic of China) on 16 and 17 July 1991, under the very high chairmanship of His Royal Highness Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK. At the meeting, there were (in alphabetical order): Their Excellencies HOR NAM HONG, HUN SEN, IENG MOULY, IM CHHUN LIM, KHIEU SAMPHAN, H.R.H. Prince NORODOM RANARIDDH, Their Excellencies SON SANN and SON SEN.

The Representatives of the two Co-Chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) and the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General participated in the meeting as observers.

The Representative of the People's Republic of China participated also in the meeting as observer.

II. The SNC of Cambodia unanimously agreed:

1. To elect His Royal Highness Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK as its President.

This important decision is a deserved homage rendered to H.R.H. Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK who, thanks to his being above all parties, his wise and experienced leadership, is the sole Cambodian statesman in a position to achieve national reconciliation among all Cambodians and to speed up the peace process towards a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodia conflict and towards the restoration of an independent, sovereign, peaceful, neutral, non-aligned and united Cambodia within her territorial integrity.

In order to fully implement his role as President of the Supreme National Council, H.R.H. Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK has decided to resign from all his positions as President of the Cambodian National Resistance (CNR) and as President of the National Government of Cambodia (NGC) and has decided from now on to stand neutral acting as a conciliator, without belonging to any faction or political party.

2. To hold the next formal meeting of the SNC in Bangkok (Thailand) on 26, 27 and 28 August 1991.

3. To send a delegation to the forty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly, composed of:

- Head of the delegation: H.R.H. Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK

- Members (by alphabetical order):

  - as representatives:

    H.E. HOR NAM HONG
    H.E. HUN SEN
    H.E. KHIEU SAMPHAN
    H.E. SON SANN

  - as alternate representatives:

    H.E. DITH MUNTY
    H.E. IENG MOULY
    H.E. IM CHHUN LIM
    H.R.H. Prince NORODOM RANARIDDH

  - a number of assistants.

4. To send to the United Nations Secretary-General a letter signed by H.R.H. Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK in which "the SNC, reiterating once again its acceptance of the Perm Five Framework Document of 28 August 1990 in its entirety, has decided to request the United Nations to send a survey mission in order to evaluate the modalities of control and an appropriate number of United Nations personnel to control the cease-fire and the cessation of foreign military aids in cooperation with the SNC Military Working Group".

5. To send a delegation to participate in the special meeting of the Mekong Committee in mid-August 1991 as well as in its full session from 4 to 6 November 1991.

6. To appoint six officials to the SNC secretariat as follows:

MM. CHUM BUN RONG
Dr. MAK BEN
PENN THOL
SAR SAMBATH
SOK AN
VENG SEREYVUTH

The secretariat shall begin its work one week prior to the forthcoming SNC meeting in Bangkok (Thailand) in August 1991 at the former Cambodian Embassy, pending the installation of the SNC headquarters in Phnom Penh.

7. To set up an operational SNC working group to draft the SNC rules of procedure, the principles of the new Constitution of Cambodia and the electoral laws, and to examine the modalities of the installation of the SNC headquarters in Phnom Penh, inter alia:

- Situation of the headquarters at the Government Guest House,

- Sending teams of the Cambodian parties to Phnom Penh to arrange their accommodation,

- Matters pertaining to the immunity and privileges of the SNC members and the personnel of their staff.

8. To request from the United Nations Secretary-General assistance:

- to facilitate the repatriation of Cambodian refugees and displaced persons;

- to establish a mine awareness programme in Cambodia and in the refugee camps along the Cambodian border which includes:

  - mass public education on the recognition and avoidance of unexploded ordnance devices;

  - training of Cambodian volunteers to dispose of unexploded ordnance devices;

  - emergency first aid training to Cambodian volunteers.

9. To set up a working group on repatriation which will closely work with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the preparatory work of the repatriation such as the setting up of the refugee transit centres, warehouses, road access, etc.

III. H.R.H. Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK, President of the SNC and all members of the SNC present in the meeting wish to express their deepest and warmest gratitude to the Government and people of the People's Republic of China, H.E. President YANG SHANG KUN and H.E. Prime Minister LI PENG as well as to all Chinese officials for their generous assistance and hospitality which have facilitated this successful meeting.

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Forty-sixth session
Item 47 (a) of the provisional agenda*

REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/46/150.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 15 December 1989, the General Assembly adopted resolution 44/144 A, entitled "Reduction of military budgets", the operative part of which reads as follows:

> "The General Assembly,
>
> "...
>
> "1. Welcomes the work of the Disarmament Commission on the identification and elaboration of a set of principles that should govern further action of States in the field of the freezing and reduction of military budgets; 1/
>
> "2. Takes note of these principles, as annexed to the present resolution, and decides to bring them to the attention of Member States and of the Conference on Disarmament as useful guidelines for further action in the field of the freezing and reduction of military budgets;
>
> "3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution;
>
> "4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled 'Reduction of military budgets'."

2. Pursuant to paragraph 3 of the resolution, the Secretary-General, in a note verbale dated 25 January 1991, requested all Member States to communicate to him any relevant information on the matter referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2. To date, the Secretary-General has received replies from Austria, Finland, Liechtenstein and Panama. The replies are reproduced in section II of the present report. Other replies received will be issued as addenda to the present report.

II. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

AUSTRIA

[Original: English]

[31 May 1991]

1. In 1990, as a small, neutral country, Austria spent 0.9 per cent of its gross national product on defence.

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/44/42), para. 41.

2. In the years 1987 to 1990 the defence budget decreased on an average of 2.4 per cent in real terms. Out of this budget only 20 per cent were spent on armament.

3. By way of the annual standardized United Nations reporting system, Austria offers internationally comparable budget and armament data to support the peace-enhancing and confidence-building activities of the United Nations.

FINLAND

[Original: English]

[5 July 1991]

1. The Government of Finland welcomes the set of principles, elaborated by the United Nations Disarmament Commission, on the freezing and reduction of military budgets. They provide valuable guidelines in approaching the goal of disarmament from the point of view of military expenditure. This approach, however, represents only one possible method in disarmament and it should be complemented with other methods, as has been pointed out in the set of principles.

2. The Government of Finland is in agreement with the principle that the freezing and reduction of military budgets should be initiated by States with the largest military expenditures. Verification of reductions is indispensable for disarmament efforts to be genuine and credible. This in turn requires openness and reliable information on the levels of expenditure. Finland regards the United Nations standardized reporting system as an exemplary way in which the United Nations has been able to increase openness and transparency in military matters. Finland will continue to provide information on an annual basis. All Member States should join in this exchange of information. The system could be improved to make the information received more comparable and detailed.

3. Being a Participating State of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), Finland has entered into commitments in this area which go beyond the United Nations reporting system. In fact, openness and transparency in military matters in Europe has rapidly increased, contributing to recent progress in disarmament. The European experience, it might be noted, would speak for qualitative ceilings as suitable parameters in negotiations, leading in turn to the reduction of military budgets.

4. Not being a Party to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, which was negotiated by States belonging to military alliances, Finland is not under any new treaty obligation to reduce its military expenditure or to cut the numerical strength of its armed forces. In September 1990, Finland declared Part III of the Paris Peace Treaty of 1947 outdated as a result of political changes taking place in Europe. Therefore, also, the old treaty limitations concerning the numerical strength of Finland's Defence Forces have ceased to be valid.

5. Finland's defence expenditure is at a low level compared to other countries. It has been used exclusively for procurement of matériel for defence purposes. None the less, the Government of Finland has repeatedly expressed its readiness to enter into negotiations, which would include all CSCE States, on further conventional disarmament in Europe. Finland welcomes recent progress in this regard, and looks forward to the beginning of such negotiations already in 1992.

6. On a global scale, the freezing and gradual reduction of military budgets may prove a slow method for realistic disarmament purposes. Recent events suggest that international peace and security may require more rapid and more resolute action. In this regard, the curbing of international arms transfers and the strengthening of global and regional non-proliferation regimes is imperative, especially in regions where the numbers of conventional and/or non-conventional weapons have exceeded any conceivable defensive needs and clearly contribute to instability. Here, the main suppliers of weapons to these regions bear a particular responsibility.

LIECHTENSTEIN

[Original: English]

[5 February 1991]

Regarding General Assembly resolutions 44/114 A, 44/115, 44/116 G, 44/116 J: due to the fact that the Principality of Liechtenstein abolished its army in 1868 and has had no military forces since then, the competent Liechtenstein authorities are not in a position to give views and suggestions on the matters contained in the above-mentioned resolutions.

PANAMA

[Original: Spanish]

[9 May 1991]

1. From the first day in office of the democratic Government, the Panamanian authorities undertook a significant reduction in the functions of the former Defence Forces by dismantling military institutions, reducing the officer corps and cutting back expenditure on public security, following the establishment of more equitable and rational priorities for public expenditure.

2. The above measures have contributed to a substantial saving of 142 million balboas in two years, thus enabling the State to increase its investment in other socio-economic sectors, such as education and health, where the needs are greater. However, the constitutional reform aimed at ensuring that the Republic of Panama will never again have an army still remains to be adopted.

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Forty-sixth session
Item 99 of the preliminary list*

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Letter dated 2 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith a summary of a meeting held on 13 June 1991 between Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, and officials in charge of security, in which he drew attention to the importance of complying with the laws in force and to the rule of law so that the people might enjoy their fundamental rights and freedoms. In his statement, the President also underscored Iraq's assurance of compliance with its obligation under human rights instruments, despite the difficult circumstances which it is facing.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its annex to be distributed as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Abdul Amir AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/46/50.

ANNEX

Summary of a meeting held on 13 June 1991 between President Saddam Hussein and officials in charge of security

In spite of the exceptional circumstances faced by Iraq as a result of the war waged against it by the coalition countries and of the ensuing acts of rioting aimed against its security and the safety and lives of its people, the State authorities in Iraq, from the President of the Republic down to the security departments, have stressed on several occasions their commitment to the rule of law and their desire to see that the law is upheld without any discrimination so that the people might enjoy their fundamental rights and freedoms. During the meeting, the President directed that all must abide by the principles embodied in the laws in force relating to house searches and inspection; such searches must be based on a judicial order issued by the competent judicial authorities and must be conducted throughout in the presence of the local Mukhtar (chief) or a member of the local people's council. His directive stressed the principles of law and the Government's desire to ensure public security and safety and to prevent this issue from being exploited by persons or bodies for purposes of impairing public security and tarnishing the name of the State authorities.

Addressing the meeting, The Director-General of Police emphasized the need to verify the identity of persons claiming that they were entrusted with the work of inspection and to ensure that they produced the judicial order issued by the competent authorities, in addition to the necessity that the Mukhtar or a member of the people's council be present, as stated before.

This procedure was also referred to in the statement by the Prime Minister in announcing his ministerial programme, in which he stressed the Government's desire to uphold the rule of law and to prevent any violation of the law by any authority whatsoever.

It should also be mentioned that these measures are in keeping with Iraq's attachment to the principles of fundamental human rights and freedoms, particularly articles 9, 14 and 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Iraq is a party.

The State authorities are objectively reviewing all the laws and procedures imposed on Iraq by the exceptional circumstances it is facing with a view to their abolition in order to enable the citizens to exercise their fundamental rights and freedoms.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Items 29 and 68 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 19 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you a letter dated 18 July 1991 from His Excellency Mr. Abdul Wakil, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, addressed to you (see annex).

I have further the honour to request that the text of the present letter and its annex be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 29 and 68 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khodaidad BASHARMAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/46/50.

ANNEX

Letter dated 18 July 1991 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan to the Secretary-General

At the outset, I express my good wishes to Your Excellency. As per the latest available information, I hereby draw your attention to the fact that, contrary to the prevalent atmosphere originating from your good offices and joint work with the peace-loving forces over a political solution of the conflict in Afghanistan and the ever-increasing hopes created as a result of your Five-Point Statement and the growing support of the Afghan people and the international community being extended towards this end, the military authorities of Pakistan, contrary to the support expressed by the Government of that country to Your Excellency's Five-Point Statement, are still pinning their hope on a military solution.

Recently, the military circles of Pakistan, in continuation of their earlier interventionist military operations, in direct collusion with the Afghan war-mongering opposition, have organized the plan of an attack on Gardez and some other cities with an aim to pursue their hostile militaristic objective.

The recent changes in the positions of the army units and contingent of Pakistan based near the border area with the Republic of Afghanistan and the transfer of assorted weapons and their deployment around Gardez and a number of other cities and the joint preparation by these units and those of the Afghan extremist opposition are testimonies to this fact.

Being convinced of the futility of a military solution, the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan, while once again assuring you of its continued cooperation with Your Excellency's peace efforts for achieving a political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan, seriously considers its obligation to give a befitting response, in case the military circles of Pakistan and the Afghan war-mongering extremist opposition try to put into practice the above-mentioned hostile plan. Such a state of affairs will inevitably culminate in the complication of the situation and will weaken the growing process of the political solution.

While the grave consequences of such vain and already tested attempts shall be borne by Pakistani militarists and the Afghan war-mongering extremist opposition, under the conditions when the process of a political solution of the Afghan conflict has gained a new momentum as a result of Your Excellency's good offices and the realistic approach of the Republic of Afghanistan and other realistic national and international forces, I call upon Your Excellency at this sensitive juncture to use your authority and available possibilities to prevent the realization of the aforementioned plan, which is detrimental to the peace process and Your Excellency's Five-Point Statement.

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Items 50, 51, 52, 53, 60 (a) and (i)
and 70 of the provisional agenda*

IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 45/48 CONCERNING THE SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL I OF THE TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (TREATY OF TLATELOLCO)

CESSATION OF ALL NUCLEAR-TEST EXPLOSIONS

AMENDMENT OF THE TREATY BANNING NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS IN THE ATMOSPHERE, IN OUTER SPACE AND UNDER WATER

URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: NOTIFICATION OF NUCLEAR TESTS; PROHIBITION OF THE DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION

Letter dated 16 July 1991 from the representatives of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the members of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, we have the honour to request that the attached statement, which was issued by the secretariat of the Commission on 8 July 1991, be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 50, 51, 52, 53, 60 (a) and (i) and 70 of the provisional agenda.

Reaffirming the views set forth in their previous communications of 5 June, 9 and 11 July, 21 and 28 November 1990 and 9 and 28 May and

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* A/46/150.

24 June 1991, the members of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific once again reject the continuation of nuclear testing by France in view of the grave risk such testing poses to the marine environment and to life in the Pacific basin, and again call for an immediate and permanent end to such tests.

(Signed) Fernando CEPEDA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Colombia to the United Nations

(Signed) James HOLGER
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative of
Chile to the United Nations
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

(Signed) José AYALA LASSO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Ecuador to the United Nations

(Signed) Ricardo LUNA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Peru to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement by the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific
issued at Santiago on 8 July 1991

There have been reports in the media relaying information provided by the Ministry of Defence of France to the effect that on 5 July 1991 France conducted a further nuclear test at Mururoa atoll. This was the fifth such test so far this year and the second since France submitted an arms control and disarmament plan.

This deplorable announcement compels the secretariat to state, once again, the categorical and utter rejection by the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific of such tests in view of the grave risk which they pose to the marine environment and marine resources and the fact that they are in direct contravention of the common policy of the member States of this regional maritime organization for the protection and defence of the marine environment and resources.

Accordingly the secretariat of the Commission, pursuant to the mandate conferred upon it by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member States and the Permanent Commission, reiterates its urgent demand for the immediate and permanent cessation of such tests in the Pacific basin.

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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Note verbale dated 17 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Czechoslovakia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to enclose herewith the Final Statement of the Ninth Session of the Interaction Council (Prague, Czech and Slovak Federative Republic, 30 May-2 June 1991) (see annex).

The Permanent Representative of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic to the United Nations would appreciate if the above-mentioned document could be published as an official document of the forty-sixth session under items 78, 79 and 95 of the provisional agenda.

* A/46/150.

ANNEX

FINAL STATEMENT

Ninth session

Prague, Czech and Slovak Federative Republic

30 May - 2 June 1991

1. New constellations and unprecedented challenges confront governments and peoples everywhere since the end of the Cold War. No longer dominated by the constraints of traditional West-East rivalries and with reduced North-South antagonisms, the world now has to grapple with a globalized setting which is characterized by a hitherto unknown diversity of linkages.

2. The present intricate period of transition in Eastern Europe is accompanied by staggering problems, on a global scale, related to population, migration, environment, energy and development — and also to international narcotraffic and its association with international terrorism. The critical global problems that affect and threaten the world require a rethinking of international relations and a redefinition of the world order.

I. ECONOMIES IN TRANSFORMATION

3. The InterAction Council fully endorses the report by Mr. Pierre Elliott Trudeau on the conclusions and recommendations of a High—Level Expert Group on Economies in Transformation: Limitations and Potential of the Transition Process.[1]

4. **The challenge faced by the economies of Central and Eastern Europe is without precedent.** The transformation of one system predominantly based on central planning and state ownership into another predominantly based on market principles, private ownership and encouragement of initiative and enterprise may well take over a decade. **Countries cannot expect to reap immediate benefits. Transformation does not happen overnight. Leadership and vision will be indispensable to articulate and co-ordinate ends and means and to guide the cultural change that is inevitable.**

5. The protracted transformation process — which takes place in an ideological vacuum — might cause disillusionment among the people, with potentially serious repercussions for the fragile institutions and governments in these countries regardless of their democratic legitimacy.

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[1] In addition to Mr. Trudeau, the following members of the InterAction Council participated in the meeting: Maria de Lourdes PINTASILGO (Portugal), LORD CALLAGHAN OF CARDIFF (United Kingdom), Miguel DE LA MADRID HURTADO (Mexico), Jenő FOCK (Hungary), Mitja RIBICIC (Yugoslavia),
as well as the following high-level experts: Abel G. AGANBEGYAN (USSR), Henning CHRISTOPHERSEN (Denmark), Vladimir DLOUHY (Czech and Slovak Federative Republic), Janos FEKETE (Hungary), Albert FISHLOW (USA), Nathan GARDELS (USA), Robert L. HEILBRONER (USA), Hazel HENDERSON (USA), Robert KUTTNER (USA), Axel LEBAHN (Germany), Emile VAN LENNEP (Netherlands), Robert MCNAMARA (USA), Isamu MIYAZAKI (Japan), Goeran OHLIN (Sweden), Jerzy OSIATYNSKI (Poland), Richard PARKER (USA), PU Shan (China), Stanley SHEINBAUM (USA), Boaventura SOSA SANTOS (Portugal).

6. During the transition process, three key tasks must be accomplished:

- the adoption and implementation of **appropriate macroeconomic stabilization policies** to eliminate disequilibria with a view to facilitating economic growth;
- the **introduction and guarantee of property rights** linked to the rule of law and the initiation of structural reforms; and
- a phased process **of privatization and commercialization** of trade, industry and services.

7. While there are scores of market-economy-oriented models working satisfactorily in Western Europe, North America, Asia and other parts of the world, difficulties arise when attempting to transfer those models to Central and Eastern Europe. Although the command economy and the centralized planning system did not succeed in any country of the world, indicative and participatory planning have served in many countries as essential instruments to foster economic growth.

8. Neither the capitalist market system nor the socialist command economy have proved to be perfect in satisfying individual or collective needs nor to ensure a fair distribution of income. Equally, no pure market economic system based on private ownership exists. **Most economies are mixed systems with a vigorous private sector and a strong, large public sector.**

9. Although public debate over the last two years has focused heavily on privatization, **the ends must not be confused with the means**. While introduction of the market economy remains a priority objective, **privatization is but one of the means for its attainment**. It is likely that for many years to come the economies of Central and Eastern Europe and of the Soviet Union will be mixed economies with a comparatively strong public sector operating under market principles.

10. The — often abrupt — introduction of market mechanisms causes its own problems, especially in terms of unemployment and other social hardships.

11. The InterAction Council considers that where priority was given to restitution of property compulsorily acquired — rather than providing for compensation — in Central and Eastern European countries, this has hampered and in future may even further hamper the process of privatization. **The Council urges Governments to re-examine their pertinent legislation and policies ensuring that they create a conducive atmosphere for private investment.**

12. The credibility gap between words and political advice, on the one hand, and political action, on the other hand, must be bridged. **The InterAction Council calls for a sustained effort and continuous dialogue between all economies in transition (including the Soviet Union) and Western industrialized countries. The InterAction Council further urges the OECD governments to consider seriously supporting and financing a massive programme of infrastructure investment — not least in environmentally sound technologies — in Central and Eastern European countries and the Soviet Union.** The InterAction Council encourages and supports the efforts under way to adopt the European Programnme for Environment.

13. The scarcity of capital and savings in today's global markets is bound to impede the transformation process. To alleviate this situation, **the InterAction Council urges the United States and Germany to reduce their demands on the capital markets. The InterAction Council also appeals to entrepreneurs in Japan, Republic of Korea, USA, Canada, Australia and other countries to invest in the Central and Eastern European economies. Furthermore, the Council enjoins all countries to reduce substantially their military expenditures thereby releasing resources badly needed for domestic purposes and, among others, for transformation processes and for development purposes.**

14. **The InterAction Council urges the leaders of the Central and Eastern European countries to study the lessons to be learnt and mistakes made in the case of East Germany over the past eight months.**

II. STABILIZING GLOBAL FINANCIAL MARKETS

15. The InterAction Council fully endorses the report by Mr. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing on the conclusions and recommendations of a High-level Expert Group on *The Role of Central Banks in Globalized Financial Markets*.[2]

16. In recent years, **considerable changes have taken place in domestic and international capital markets**: for example, deregulation, the creation of new financial instruments, futures markets and computer-based instant dissemination of information closely linking markets, instruments and currencies, and greatly enhances the circulation of funds around the globe.

17. **In many respects, these changes have been advantageous and represent a positive trend.** However, **these changes have also caused new problems**, as exemplified by periodic defaults, failures, and rescue operations in the interbank money or currency markets. More fundamentally, the growing interconnection between markets may **increase the potential for systemic risks.** Furthermore, the **new global financial markets do not yet have an institutional counterpart** to provide the necessary supervision and information. Weaker economies are overwhelmed by a process in which they have no direct influence. The benefits of floating exchange rates have been illusory. Countries should seek to establish fixed exchange rates (or exchange rates that can only be moved narrowly or with difficulty) as is the case in the European Monetary System (EMS).

18. **The InterAction Council is strongly convinced that central banks and other regulators should intensify their efforts to enhance their capacity to deal with crises in the new financial environment through better, more appropriate and co-ordinated regulation.**

19. Moreover, the InterAction Council deems that **the time is right to adopt a comprehensive approach concerning the role of central banks and supervisors in the new financial environment, aiming at stability, transparency and efficiency.**

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[2] In addition to Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, the following members of the InterAction Council participated in the meeting: Maria de Lourdes PINTASILGO (Portugal), Malcolm FRASER (Australia), Olusegun OBASANJO (Nigeria), Manuel ULLOA (Peru).
and the following high-level experts: Stephen AXILROD (USA), Victor GERASHENKO (USSR), John HEIMANN (USA), Michael HEWITT (United Kingdom), Paul MENTRE (France), Moeen QUREISHI (Pakistan), I.G. PATEL (India), Robert RAYMOND (France), Donald RIEFLER (USA), Elcior FERREIRA DE SANTANA (Brazil), Kumiharu SHIGEHARA (Japan), Imre TARAFAS (Hungary), Josef TOSOVSKY (Czech and Slovak Federative Republic), Norbert WALTER (Germany).

20. **The best encouragement to stability in financial markets and to adequate private savings are monetary policies steadily oriented toward price stability. This is best accomplished through independent central banks** with a clear mandate to that effect.

21. The move toward a single European currency — which the InterAction Council has repeatedly endorsed — should pave the way for **a tri-polar international monetary system (US dollar, yen and ECU)**. For other currencies, individual choices might then be made to link with one of these three currencies (provided this "anchor currency" is sufficiently stable) or with a basket of the three.

22. **This would imply a move from the current G-7 grouping to a G-3. In such a constellation, particular responsibilities ought to be given to a small group of countries which would have to agree on a general approach to exchange rates evolution and to a stabilizing use of monetary and fiscal policies.** In assuming these responsibilities, aiming at a convergence of economic policies and inflation rates, the G-7 and then the G-3, should exercise world leadership, at the same time ensuring close co-operation with the IMF and with other countries. In this connexion, **the role of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) should be re-evaluated and reinforced with a view to ensuring an adequate surveillance of the economic policies of richer countries.**

23. As regards the supervision of banks, diversity prevails, even among the major countries. While respecting national choices, in the future emphasis should be put on the **streamlining of bank regulation** - by one single national regulator — and the **independence of bank supervision** — either an independent central bank or a specific agency. In all cases, central banks, either alone or concurrently with other agencies, should monitor the **financial soundness of the banking system as a whole.**

24. **Coordination of the supervision of non-bank financial intermediaries or non-bank financial institutions remains extremely loose.** For this reason, **more effective mechanisms for coordinated supervision of internationally active securities intermediaries, with a more clearly defined and coherent allocation of supervisory responsibilities, need to be developed in coming years.**

25. The InterAction Council urges **governments** — at least in the OECD countries and in offshore centers — **to agree on a set of standards to be applied to the regulation of financial markets and financial intermediaries.** This set of standards should be **based on the principles of transparency, neutrality, inclusiveness, regulatory independence, mutual recognition, and harmonized standards.**

26. Supervision aimed at prudent behavior of individual banks and market operators would not, however, bring to markets the required stability if risks of chain-defaults and systemic risks are not at the same time addressed. **Central banks should therefore be ready, as they always have been, to provide liquidity in a crisis to its own banking system ("lender of last resort") and to take concerted action in foreign exchange markets when necessary.**

27. **Central banks should urgently promote a comprehensive programme for the strengthening of payment and settlement systems, including** the development of robust, legally valid delivery versus payment systems in securities markets.

28. Added stability in financial markets is not an end in itself but an instrument to enhance stability and growth in the real economy. **Financial deregulation should not take undue precedence over overall economic efficiency** which notably implies flexibility in labor markets and renewed efforts to dismantle trade barriers. Financial markets should keep their function as a service industry to the productive segment of the economy.

29. Furthermore, adequate signals must be given by financial markets to the real economy by promoting information, tightening insider rules and stressing a long-term approach, as well as adopting an adequate domestic jurisdiction for mergers, acquisitions and concentrations.

30. In particular, the futures markets, both in financial instruments and commodities such as oil, warrant an in-depth study as to their impact, requirements, regulation and supervision.

III. THE NEXUS OF POPULATION GROWTH, DETERIORATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

31. Today, we live in a world of 5.3 billion people. In 1950 — a mere 40 years ago —, world population was less than half. If present trends continue the world of 2025 could be populated by twice that number. Most of this growth will occur in the developing world, where during the 1980s it already caused a drop in per capita GNP. In the developed world, the current growth in population is attributable to migration — again a consequence of explosive birth rates in the developing countries.

32. There is a growing awareness among scientists and concerned experts about the devastating consequences caused by the exponential growth of the world's population: a sharp increase in energy demand is depleting traditional energy resources, destroying forests, impoverishing once arable land, and adding to the already considerable greenhouse effect caused, in the main by excessive combustion of hydrocarbons in the industrialized world. Climate change also contributes to the deterioration of the environment, in the process diminishing survival prospects in densely populated areas of the world, where population growth already renders efforts towards development futile.

33. The growth in the number of people has caused a wave of migrations into cities and across national boundaries into wealthier nations. Cities, especially in the less developed world, are growing much more rapidly than the population. There has been a surge of migration, legal and illegal, into the developed nations. Environmental refugees are now adding their numbers to the growing flood of economic refugees. Worldwide, all refugees together total some 500 million, a figure that could easily double by the year 2000. These migratory movements clearly threaten political stability and the preservation of peace within countries and between nations.

34. The present population of the planet is consuming, directly or indirectly, 40 per cent of energy fixed on land as food; if the oceans are included, it is consuming more than 50 per cent. This use of energy cannot be doubled, no matter how much the population expands. This clearly demonstrates that currently the world is on a path of unsustainable development.

35. Political leaders must urgently address the issue of climatic change caused by the warming of the earth. By now, it is a scientifically established fact that the world is moving rapidly from a period of a stable climate to an open-ended period of continuous warming with the effect of diminishing the potential of the earth to support its population. A first step in slowing down this process requires stopping the accumulation of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere. To stabilize the carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere would require at present a 60-80 per cent reduction in the use of fossil fuels below current (1990) levels.

36. Recent data indicate that there is a continuous flow of land use from forest to agriculture and then to impoverishment. For example, about 30 per cent of the surface area of India is officially recognized by the Indian government as impoverished, i.e. not useable for agriculture, for forests, nor any other purpose. The global warming will doubtlessly accentuate such trends.

37. Notwithstanding the frightening figures for a population growth already well underway and a visibly deteriorating environment, it is not only a moral question, but equally of enlightened political, economic and social self-interest on the part of nations and their leaders to strive for a resolution of these issues, both at national and international levels.

38. As regards global warming, the InterAction Council urges governments to cooperate in the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Brazil in 1992, and to ensure its successful completion with a view to concluding an international convention on the greenhouse gases emissions.

39. As regards population growth, the InterAction Council suggests that the 1990s be dedicated as decade for the promotion and implementation of effective family planning programmes, both at national and international levels, and that funding of such programmes be substantially increased.

40. In the field of energy, the InterAction Council calls upon the OECD countries to cooperate and take the lead in a bold international research and development programme similar to the US-Apollo Program, to identify and to produce technically and economically viable renewable energy resources to replace traditional hydrocarbon fuels. This also would include increased efforts to reduce the energy need per unit of industrial production.

41. Consumption patterns in the industrialized countries have been and are still geared towards waste and products which require the extensive use of raw materials. The InterAction Council firmly believes that national governments have a political interest in, as well as a moral obligation to stimulate environmental awareness and to make a more conservative use of natural resources a primary objective of education. Education would provide an antidote to the illusion that people are helpless to prevent their possible doom.

IV. URUGUAY ROUND

42. The GATT-sponsored Uruguay Round of global trade negotiations is at a crucial stage. If no final agreement is attained within one year from now, the negotiations may be doomed. The InterAction Council considers that it is high time to marshall political courage and determination to ensure success. A failure of the Uruguay Round could spark a protectionist reaction all over the globe and would be a setback to countries presently in transition towards a market economy.

43. The InterAction Council feels that the current GATT rules are badly in need of updating as they now cover only one third of world trade. Reductions in tariff and non-tariff barriers and worldwide rules for services, cross-border investment and intellectual property protection would stimulate global economic growth and encourage the transfer of technology. Cuts in subsidies would result in fairer competition and expanded trade, benefitting in particular those who cannot keep up with the subsidies race. Securing access to markets with a high purchasing power would boost investments in countries in need of export-led development. Better mechanisms should be created to settle international trade disputes, countering trends towards unilateral action and other forms of protectionism.

44. History has taught us a bitter lesson. The absence of global rules for free trade and the protectionist policies prevailing before World War II seriously damaged prospects for peace and prosperity. There are again disturbing signs today. Major players in the world trade game might turn their backs on GATT, choosing to rely instead on their own political and economic power, to the detriment of smaller and weaker states. A breakdown of the Uruguay Round would not only be disastrous in terms of opportunities lost. It is illusionary to think that the world would just return to business as usual. Regional trade blocs would emerge battling one another with

protectionist actions and the world would be worse off than before. It is the United States, the European Community and Japan that bear a particular responsibility for the preservation and development of a well-functioning world trade system. Some of their key policies, such as agriculture, ought to be reviewed without any further delay.

V. YUGOSLAVIA

45. The InterAction Council is following with great anxiety the constitutional crisis which has left Yugoslavia with no head of State. The Council considers that every effort should be made to avert an unnecessary tragedy and avoid bloodshed which could have serious repercussions for other parts of Europe.

46. **The InterAction Council, therefore, calls on the member countries of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) at its meeting on 19 and 20 June 1991 in Berlin to apply all possible means at its disposal including, if appropriate, its dispute conciliation procedure, to Yugoslavia immediately and to consider establishing an independent commission of inquiry into the situation.**

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The following participated in the Prague session:

I. Members of the InterAction Council

Helmut Schmidt (Federal Republic of Germany), Chairman
Takeo Fukuda (Japan), Honorary Chairman
Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo (Portugal), Deputy Chairperson
Andries van Agt (Netherlands)
Lord Callaghan of Cardiff (United Kingdom)
Jacques Chaban-Delmas (France)
Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado (Mexico)
Malcolm Fraser (Australia)
Kurt Furgler (Switzerland)
Valery Giscard d'Estaing (France)
Daniel Lisulo (Zambia)
Olusegun Obasanjo (Nigeria)
Misael Pastrana Borrero (Colombia)
Mitja Ribicic (Yugoslavia)
Shin Hyon-Hwak (Republic of Korea)
Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Canada)
Manuel Ulloa (Peru)
Ola Ullsten (Sweden)

II. Special Guests

Karen N. Brutenz (USSR)
Jiri G. Hajek (CSFR)
Huang Hua (China)
Henry A. Kissinger (United States)
Miroslav Kusy (CSFR)
William P. Laughlin (United States)
Robert S. McNamara (United States)
Isamu Miyazaki (Japan)
Nafis Sadik (Pakistan)
Seiken Sugiura (Japan)
Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie (Malaysia)
George Woodwell (United States)

III. Invited Journalists

Flora Lewis (United States) - The New York Times
Jan Urban (CSFR) - Lidove Noviny
Roger de Weck (Germany) - Die Zeit

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Item 85 (b) of the provisional agenda*

SPECIAL ECONOMIC AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL PROGRAMMES OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Summary reports on Chad and Djibouti

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/46/150.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its forty-fifth session the General Assembly adopted resolutions 45/223 and 45/228 on 21 December 1990, entitled, respectively, "Special economic assistance to Chad" and "Assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti". The present report contains the reports requested of the Secretary-General in those resolutions. The report updates information contained in the report of the Secretary-General dated 2 August 1990 (see A/45/358).

2. The introduction to document A/45/358 provides information on the purpose of the special programmes of economic assistance which have been established by the General Assembly for a number of developing countries. As a follow-up mechanism of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries 1/ and the Programme of Action for the 1990s for the Least Developed Countries, 2/ Chad and Djibouti have integrated the special programmes of economic assistance into the round-table process in mobilizing and coordinating donor support. Document A/45/358 provides information on the round-table process as an appropriate framework in which to assess the status and future needs of a country. The lead institution in the round-table process is the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

3. In his progress report on reform and renewal in the United Nations (A/42/234), the Secretary-General decided that the administration of the special programmes of economic assistance would henceforth be the responsibility of UNDP. Accordingly, the reports in the present document have been prepared by UNDP, based on information provided by the Government of Chad and the Government of Djibouti through the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations system's operational activities for development and Resident Representative of UNDP, as well as on data available in the UNDP regional bureaux and information provided by concerned United Nations offices, programmes and agencies.

4. In the present report, the summary reports are presented according to the allocation of country responsibility among UNDP regional bureaux: Chad falls within the competence of the Regional Bureau for Africa; Djibouti falls within the competence of the Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes. Additional information concerning any of the special programmes of economic assistance or round-table conferences or meetings may be obtained from the appropriate UNDP regional Bureau or from the Government concerned.

II. REGIONAL BUREAU FOR AFRICA

Chad

1. Background

5. A special programme of economic assistance to Chad was initiated pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/92 of 5 December 1980. The most recent report of the Secretary-General is contained in section II.C of document A/45/358.

6. In its resolution 45/223 of 21 December 1990, the General Assembly noted that a development orientation plan had been submitted to donors on the occasion of the third Round-table Conference of Donors to Chad held at Geneva on 19 and 20 June 1990. The Assembly also noted that a number of sectoral and thematic donor meetings were to be convened by the Government of Chad, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme. In the resolution, the General Assembly, inter alia, renewed the request made to the international community to continue to contribute to the rehabilitation and development of Chad; requested the Secretary-General to continue to assess, in close collaboration with the humanitarian agencies concerned, the humanitarian needs, particularly in the areas of health and food, of the displaced populations; and called upon the Secretary-General to keep the situation in Chad under review and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

2. The new context

7. Following events of December 1990 and a change of regime, a new context was established for the socio-economic development of Chad. On the political side, there is a commitment to individual liberty and democratization. However, the confluence of three unfavourable factors has brought back a certain emergency element to Chad's situation. First, the looting that took place on 1 December 1990 has further reduced the capacities of the public administration. Secondly, insufficient rainfall over a two-year period has resulted in widespread food shortages. Thirdly, a substantial number of former refugees have returned to Chad and are in need of assistance. Moreover, movement of population within the country has put strain on local resources and facilities. The present situation calls for a strong commitment on the part of the international community to support the people and the Government of Chad.

3. The round-table process

8. The third cycle of the Round Table, the process chosen by Chad for carrying on an economic policy dialogue with donors and for mobilizing and coordinating international assistance, was launched in 1990. As noted in paragraph 6 above, the Third Round-table Conference of Donors to Chad, convened

by the Government of Chad in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, was held at Geneva on 19 and 20 June 1990 at which a development orientation plan was submitted to donors.

9. As a follow-up to the Conference, the organizing and launching of the sectoral consultations which define the strategies, programmes of action and the financing arrangements were carried out in the second half of 1990 and the early months of 1991. Four sets of sectoral consultations have been launched. The sectors are:

(a) Education, training and employment

The French Fonds d'Aide et de Coopération and the World Bank played leading roles in the preparation for and holding of the meetings. UNDP provided support in the areas of setting up the structures for follow-up and coordination in the sector. In this connection, a $600,000 project is to be executed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and UNESCO.

(b) Health and social affairs

The World Health Organization (WHO) in association with the African Development Bank took the lead in the preparations for the meetings concerning the sector.

(c) Environment and desertification

The United Nations Sahelian Office (UNSO), working closely with the Comité permanent Interétat de lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel (CILSS), was the lead organizer and brought support through a $350,000 project.

(d) Promotion of the private sector

UNDP, the French Fonds d'Aide et de Coopération and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) are cooperating with and assisting the Government in working out a policy for the development of this sector.

4. Other assistance from the United Nations system

10. UNDP continues to provide support within the fourth cycle of the country programme for Chad. The human resources component of the programme is being strengthened as is also the institutional capacity component. UNDP cooperates closely with other United Nations agencies and offices, which, for the most part, strengthened their programmes in Chad in 1990.

11. In a 1991 report on the emergency assistance required to meet the food and health needs of Chad's population, UNICEF estimates the number of persons affected by drought at 1,150,000, approximately 60 per cent of the population

in the areas affected by the failure of rains over a two-year period. Of this total, 597,000 are women and 288,000 are young people under 15 years of age.

12. The risk of rapid spread of disease in Chad is also highlighted in the UNICEF report. Their immune systems having been weakened by malnutrition, Chadians are especially vulnerable to disease. Measles and meningitis threaten and the situation was exacerbated in May 1991 by an outbreak of cholera.

13. UNICEF estimates that $850,000 in funding is required to meet Chad's emergency food and health needs. UNICEF is working with government agencies, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to relieve the situations with regard to nutrition, potable water/hygiene, and survival and food security.

14. In 1990/91, WHO continued to assist the Government of Chad in improving the national primary health care system. Especially important among WHO activities in Chad are maternal and child health care, the Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI) and the Diarrhoeal Disease Control Programme. Since the overall rate of immunization in Chad is deemed to be well below average, EPI is considered a key area of WHO cooperation with the Government of Chad.

15. In connection with the Diarrhoeal Disease Control Programme, the WHO Regional Office for Africa supported and coordinated the following activities in 1991: emergency assistance for cholera; a workshop on Information, Education and Communication; a national training course on planning and management for senior health personnel; and surveys in selected prefectures.

16. In addition to its activities in Chad as an executing agency for projects financed by UNDP/UNEP and trust funds, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) provided assistance through seven self-financed projects with a total value of $1,274,000. These projects covered the following areas:

(a) Environment: anti-erosion measures and the fixing of dunes, inventory of the ouaddis at Kanem, institutional support to the Ministry;

(b) Cattle breeding/basic health;

(c) Milk processing;

(d) Production/consumption of market gardening produce;

(e) Rural credit (analytical study).

17. The World Food Programme (WFP) was active in Chad in 1990/91 in implementing three development projects and in providing emergency food assistance. The three areas of development assistance were: education ($23.9 million), food for vulnerable groups ($4.5 million) and rural development ($2.4 million). In addition, WFP provided food assistance to some

167,000 drought-affected persons over a five-month period. Distribution began in March 1991 with commodities borrowed from the national food security stock. A joint programming mission with UNDP will consult with the Government of Chad in September 1991 to draw up proposals for further WFP assistance to the country.

5. Other donors

18. The total of donor assistance to Chad continued at a high level in 1990, with provisional estimates indicating an increase of close to 9 per cent compared with 1989. Also, the activities of non-governmental organizations are becoming increasingly important in Chad.

III. REGIONAL BUREAU FOR ARAB STATES AND EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES

Djibouti

1. Background

19. In response to General Assembly resolution 32/93 of 13 December 1977, a special programme of economic assistance to Djibouti was instituted in 1978 to help the country cope with serious economic and social problems that had been compounded by severe drought. Since then, the Secretary-General has reported regularly on the situation in Djibouti in response to further General Assembly resolutions. In its resolution 45/228 of 21 December 1990, the Assembly noted that the economic and social development of Djibouti is hindered by torrential rains and floods that devastate the country and by the effects of cyclical drought on agro-pastoral activity. The Assembly also noted the recent influx into Djibouti of over 50,000 persons displaced from their own country. The Assembly, inter alia, called upon the Secretary-General to arrange for a study of the economic situation of Djibouti and of the progress made in the organization and implementation of the new special programme of economic assistance for the country in time for the question to be considered by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

2. The 1989 floods

20. For the most part, Djibouti is an arid country with rainfall of less than 150 mm per year. In April 1989, more than 500 mm of rain fell on Djibouti within three to four days, causing much damage to the capital city, where 150,000 people were displaced within the first 24 hours of the rains and schools were closed for two weeks. Roads, drainage and sanitation systems were affected. The cost of reconstruction of roads, dams, drainage and sanitation systems, including measures to avoid similar damage occurring in the future, is estimated by the Government at $27.76 milion, of which $6 million is required in the immediate future and $21.76 million is needed over the long term.

21. In the countryside, agricultural production, both animal and vegetable, suffered losses, tools were lost or damaged, and hydraulic installations for the extraction of drinking water were damaged. Fishing was disrupted, catches were swept away and boats damaged. About 170,000 persons in the rural sector were affected together with some thousands of persons working small vegetable gardens on the outskirts of the capital city who lost their produce. The total loss to agricultural production, including cattle production and fisheries, is estimated at 10 per cent of the branch's annual output. Assistance provided to the rural populations consisted of food in the first instance, followed by the provision of materials, and small tools to help them resume activities pending the arrival of more substantial aid.

22. To strengthen government capacity in relief operations and disaster management, the United Nations system provided emergency assistance, which included:

(a) Spraying of insecticides from the air over the capital city and other towns to reduce mosquito proliferation and protect the population from malaria and other diseases;

(b) Review of the standing emergency plan and training of government officials in disaster preparedness;

(c) Supply of equipment such as water pumps, water pipes, vehicles.

23. These measures resulted in a 90 per cent eradication of mosquitoes and provided an emergency plan adapted to the situation. Assistance in the form of repairs to river banks and wells was also provided to farmers who had suffered losses as a result of the floods.

3. Impact of events in the region

24. As a result of events in the region, Djibouti has experienced a heavy influx of refugees and displaced persons, has suffered serious disruption of its traditional trade with neighbouring countries, and has had to cope with the economic impact of the Gulf crisis in the form of increased prices and reduced economic activity and State revenues. These events have affected Djibouti at a time when the country was coping with the effects of the disastrous flouds of April 1989.

(a) Refugees and displaced persons

25. During the second half of May 1991, 38,000 persons entered Djibouti by air, road and rail as a result of the armed conflict in Ethiopia. Many hoped to reach Dire Dawa and Addis Ababa by way of Guelilen. The size of the influx, its suddenness, and the exhausted condition of many led the Government of Djibouti to implement a national plan involving coordinated action by numerous Djibouti authorities. Although bilateral and multilateral organizations and non-governmental organizations assisted the Djibouti

authorities in these activities, the Government of Djibouti bore substantial direct costs and had to draw down reserve stocks. About 4,000 of the 38,000 persons remained in Djibouti and were accommodated in camps. The costs of dealing with this influx have added to the already heavy costs being borne by Djibouti as country of asylum to thousands of refugees, with 20,000 persons housed in other camps and 61,500 others taking refuge in the capital and in need of support. These costs have exacerbated the already difficult situation of Djibouti, where the cumulative effect of three years of recurrent drought have placed rural and especially nomadic populations in particularly precarious situations. A further negative factor has been the destruction of trees to meet the fuel needs of refugees in some areas.

26. At the end of 1990, the Government of Djibouti made an appeal for food assistance for the refugee population. Following a count and registration process by the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the World Food Programme (WFP), a $1.9 million food assistance programme was implemented.

(b) Impact on the economy

27. The Gulf crisis had a direct impact on the economy of Djibouti. Furthermore, trade with Somalia and Ethiopia which traditionally made an important contribution to the gross domestic product of Djibouti has been disrupted. The border with Somalia has now been closed for two years while trade with Ethiopia, from which Djibouti imported most of its food, was affected by events in that country. In the short term, because of the geo-strategic position of Djibouti, certain activities experienced a short-term boost as a result of the situation, notably those at the container terminal of the Port of Djibouti, the airport and postal services, and telecommunications. Because of the uncertainty of the situation, there has also been an increase in some types of trade, particularly of foodstuffs. The additional revenues accruing as a result of increased activity at the port and airport are estimated at 220 million Djibouti francs (DF)*; additional revenues from the consumption tax are estimated at 500 million DF.

28. On the other hand, the Gulf crisis affected the Djibouti economy negatively in a number of important ways:

(a) In stabilizing the price of fuel oils, l'Etablissement public des hydrocarbures had to disburse 230 million DF in the five months ending May 1991. These disbursements together with lost profits are estimated at 710 million DF over a six-month period;

(b) An additionl 700 million DF was paid out by the Electricity Authority for oil during the five-month period;

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* The Djibouti franc has a fixed rate of exchange at 177.727 DF = $US 1.00.

(c) As a result of reductions in number of passengers and quantity of cargo and increases in fuel costs, Air Djibouti went into bankruptcy in February 1991. Two thirds of the airline's capital was held by the State;

(d) Air and sea transport costs for both freight and passengers were increased;

(e) State revenues in total declined as a result of the reduction in economic activity, despite some increases in indirect taxes associated with higher prices for imported merchandise. Revenues from direct taxes are estimated to have fallen by 20 per cent as a result of the reduction in economic activity;

(f) The social effects of the Gulf crisis and events in the region are yet to be fully assessed. It is clear, however, that the curtailment of Djibouti's two essential activities - cattle rearing and re-export - has had far-reaching social effects. The loss to the informal trade sector over an eight-month period is estimated at 470 million DF. One highly visible effect of the crisis was the increased cost of basic commodities due to several factors, among them the fall in the external value of the United States dollar against which the Djibouti franc was a fixed rate of exchange, increases in transport costs and insurance rates following the levying of a number of risk premiums, and panic buying of basic commodities due to a fear of an interruption in supply;

(g) Implementation of projects financed by bilateral or multilateral Arab organizations was delayed by the Gulf crisis and the projects have increased in cost by about 20 per cent, or 800 million DF. With the exception of two Iraqi-financed projects, financing for the projects has been assured by the Arab organizations concerned.

4. Development planning

29. Recent events in the region have brought a new focus to development planning in Djibouti. These events have underscored the high degree of vulnerability of the Djibouti economy to external events, particularly the internal situation in neighbouring countries and relations between countries in the region. Further, the economy has shown itself highly vulnerable with respect to the demands of public services and investment programmes. These facts are being given due weight in the context of development planning in Djibouti. The impact on the Djibouti economy of the Gulf crisis, the prolonged closing of the border with Somalia and events within Ethiopia have underscored the urgent need to restructure the Djibouti economy, to expand and diversify the country's economic activities, and to attract additional investment capital. The Plan's priorities are thus being modified somewhat in favour of these infrastructure programmes and manpower training programmes which will enable the Djibouti economy to open up to economic flows beyond the immediate subregion and region.

30. Furthermore, it has become evident that human resources, various areas of stocking capacity and the logistical means to carry out public and private development objectives are all less than had been supposed in the best working hypotheses. For this reason, many public programmes have had to be scaled down, while some programmes have had to be postponed where development needs in fact indicated that they should have been brought forward. The public service itself is in need of strengthening to deal with the demands of programme implementation.

31. Thus, two areas in particular have been identified as requiring strengthening. The first is the institutional framework and the means at the disposal of the State to carry out the social and economic development programmes so vital to the country's welfare. The second area is manpower, where increased support is needed for training in the professions and vocational training for young people. UNDP is working closely with the Government of Djibouti on the new planning directions. The Government has also requested UNDP to organize a round table in the second half of 1992 in order to mobilize donor support for the implementation of its development strategy in the 1990s.

32. Due account is being taken of the social costs that may result from programmes of structural change in the economy, such as the increased role of the private sector as the number of areas of economic activity expands, or from the establishment of an industrial free zone. It is the intention of the Government to take the necessary measures to minimize and alleviate such costs.

33. It is realized that even a modest restructuring of the economy will inevitably encounter the problem of insufficient resources. Assurance of adequate resources is especially important if the economic objectives are to be achieved without jeopardizing priority social objectives. Efforts are under way to attract additional flows of both public and private capital.

Notes

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8).

2/ A/CONF.147/Misc.9.

UNITED
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Items 78, 81, 82, 90, 129 and 139
of the provisional agenda*
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC COOPERATION
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE
ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMITMENTS AND
POLICIES AGREED UPON IN THE DECLARATION
ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION,
IN PARTICULAR THE REVITALIZATION OF THE
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW
RESTRUCTURING AND REVITALIZATION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND RELATED AREAS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 22 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the Guadalajara Declaration issued by the Heads of State and Government of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela on 19 July 1991 in the city of Guadalajara, Mexico, at the conclusion of the first Ibero-American Summit (see annex).

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* A/46/150.

I should be grateful if you would have this document distributed among the States members of the General Assembly, under items 78, 81, 82, 90, 129 and 139 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jorge MONTAÑO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Mexico
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Guadalajara Declaration

The Heads of State and Government of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela, meeting in the city of Guadalajara, Mexico, on 18 and 19 July 1991, have agreed to issue the following declaration:

1. It is with great pleasure that we have come together, for the first time in history, to consider jointly the major challenges facing our countries in a changing world. Accordingly, our aim is to have our Governments agree on their common political will to promote the solutions required by the challenges and to forge all the historical and cultural affinities that bind us into an instrument of unity and development based on dialogue, cooperation and solidarity.

2. We represent a vast body of nations sharing common roots and the rich heritage of a culture that is the product of different peoples, beliefs and races. Five hundred years after the first encounter between us, we are determined, as one of the great geographical areas that make up today's world, to project the strength of our community forward into the third millennium.

3. We realize that the convergence we are seeking cannot draw strength only from a common cultural tradition but depends also on our wealth of national origins and their pluralistic expression. Our community is founded on democracy, on respect for human rights and on fundamental freedoms. In this context, the principles of sovereignty and non-intervention are reaffirmed and recognition is given to each people's right to build freely, in peace, stability and justice, its political system and its institutions.

4. We consider a respectful approach to bridging our differences and the many voices with which our societies speak to be the foundations of a plan for Ibero-American cooperation relying on dialogue, solidarity and concerted action.

5. We declare our determination to unite in contributing to a common future that will bring peace, greater well-being and social equality. We are committed to the economic and social development of our peoples, to giving full sway to human rights, broadening democratic channels, fortifying our institutional systems and respecting the standards of international law.

6. We desire a future that holds certainty, peace and security for our peoples. That will be possible only if international law is respected and there is general and complete disarmament which discourages the use of force and favours a negotiated settlement of disputes. We reaffirm our support for the goals of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. To counter the abuse of power, we invoke reason and dialogue.

7. We reaffirm that any State subject to the rule of law has an obligation to promote and guarantee the full observance of human rights. Relying on our own efforts and on broad, non-selective and non-discriminatory international cooperation, we are determined to create an Ibero-American tradition of human rights that will foster behaviour conducive to respect, freedom and harmony in the political, legal, economic and social spheres.

8. We recognize the immense contribution the indigenous peoples have made to the development and pluralism of our societies and we reiterate our commitment to their economic and social well-being and our obligation to respect their rights and cultural identities.

9. We are committed to a process of radical restructuring of our economies as the efficient way to recovery and growth. Our countries have made significant advances in progressive modernization through governmental reform and economic liberalization. The process has involved sacrifices, which must now cease so that genuine social justice can be established. In our region there have been unprecedented developments leading to gradual regional and subregional economic integration, and they have made it possible for us to occupy a more favourable position on the international scene. Our initiatives will find support if an international environment prevails in which more resources are made available for development and the obstacles to trade are removed.

We declare our determined support for the processes of integration under way both regionally and subregionally and we propose to continue moving forward along that path. We reiterate that these attempts at integration are open to the rest of the world.

If the present situation persists, ideological bipolarity may give way to a division between the North, rich in capital and technology, and the South, poor and without prospects. To overcome the problem, it is necessary on the one hand to develop effective forms of reciprocity and solidarity and, on the other, to ground them in an ethical plan, guided by social justice and freedom and offering new patterns that will spur genuine cooperation among the countries of the world.

10. We shall make every effort necessary to free our peoples, before the twenty-first century, from the scourge of poverty. To do so, we shall ensure general access to basic services in the areas of health, nutrition, housing, education and social security, in keeping with the goals set by the United Nations under the International Development Strategy. By so doing, we shall help to strengthen democracy in our region.

11. We reaffirm that external indebtedness is one of the main obstacles to the growth and stability of the region and that, for many of our countries, it is thus a basic factor in economic development that has an obvious political dimension.

12. We recognize that the economic, social, technological and cultural development to which we aspire requires that education and culture be vigorously promoted; in giving us a stronger identity, this will afford us a solid basis for ensuring that our countries are properly included in an international arena marked by scientific and technological innovation.

It is necessary to bridge the technological gap by using basic technology to foster the rights to health, education, food and housing. The transfer of technology must be governed by social criteria and not solely by trade considerations.

13. Faced with world-wide ecological deterioration, intimately linked to the development models that have thus far prevailed, primarily in the industrialized countries, we call for action to renew multilateral cooperation. That will be the means of stopping the ecological deterioriation and overcoming poverty. It is imperative, through this kind of international cooperation, to establish effective procedures for transferring more funds and appropriate technology to the developing countries on preferential, non-commercial terms, bearing in mind that the responsibility for a solution should fall basically to those who are doing the most damage. Among these procedures must be innovative ways of safeguarding the sovereign management of natural resources and promoting economic growth. In addition, groundwork must be done on a treaty establishing a comprehensive legal regime dealing with the inseparable aspects of development and the preservation of nature. The present inequality in the international economic system and its consequences for the large part of humanity living in poverty demand the establishment of a new order for a healthy and balanced environment.

14. We undertake to make the necessary efforts to achieve the objectives set by the World Summit for Children. To that end, we shall encourage the formulation of national programmes of action promoting the survival, protection and overall development of Ibero-American children.

15. An inadequate level of development has resulted in high rates of death and illness in our countries, particularly among the most vulnerable sectors of society. Aware of the high-risk conditions which have led to outbreaks of epidemics such as the cholera epidemic, the proportions of which have given rise to an emergency situation, we declare our intention to cooperate to overcome our shortcomings and to achieve better standards of health and living.

16. Confronted with drug-trafficking and its consequences, we affirm the principle of shared responsibility and reiterate our commitment to strengthen international cooperation to eliminate that scourge by adopting a comprehensive, multilateral approach based on full respect for the sovereignty of States.

17. In a world in which large, dynamic and competitive regional conglomerations are emerging, isolation and lack of communication result in poverty, marginalization and backwardness. We need to make greater collective efforts to reduce vulnerability and minimize the risks of isolation.

18. In the face of poverty, war, intolerance, famine, illness, environmental degradation and ignorance, we propose a new culture of international cooperation as the only path to a just and stable world. We understand this to mean genuine, concerted action which takes account of the common interests and objectives of the Ibero-American nations and which goes beyond mere give-and-take relations.

19. We therefore aspire to become full-fledged participants in world affairs. Taking our similarities and common interests as a starting-point, we have decided to take measures to overcome the challenges facing us and to unite our efforts to deal with the most pressing global issues.

20. We assume that our closer ties will be enriched by the diversity of events which are taking place, and will afford new opportunities for dialogue and understanding with all regions of the world. Hence, the strengthening of Ibero-American cooperation neither excludes nor replaces the regional and subregional integration and cooperation projects in which we are currently involved.

21. At the close of the twentieth century, international relations are being reorganized along new lines. However, the basic features of that reorganization have yet to be defined. We cannot wait passively for change, we must take action to shape it; we have genuine interests which must be reaffirmed and promoted.

22. Only an international community governed by law can ensure peace and security for all peoples. The United Nations will have an essential role to play in that area - a revitalized and renewed United Nations whose attainment of the goals for which it was created should be facilitated by the new international situation.

The strengthening of the bases of international coexistence and justice in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations is a responsibility which must be shared by all States; it is not the exclusive prerogative of a few. That process should be open to universal participation and should uphold the interests of the international community as a whole. We are resolved to make our contribution.

23. The interdependence of the challenges facing mankind compels us to unite our efforts to overcome them. The attainment of that objective will require strict adherence to the basic rules of international law, as well as to its progressive development in new areas as a result of the processes of integration and globalization.

24. We reaffirm the strength of our culture, which is being enriched by our participation in the processes of integration and globalization.

We, the Ibero-American Heads of State and Government, pledge to hold consultations in order to foster broader cooperation and to increase exchanges, which will enable us to promote common policies to ensure that we

make the best use of our advantages as members of the same community. We have set ourselves the following objectives:

I. Observance of international law

(a) To conduct our foreign affairs in conformity with international law and to take concerted and coordinated action to contribute to the elimination of the use or threat of use of force.

(b) To promote resolutely negotiation as the means of settling regional conflicts and to support initiatives in the area of arms control, reduction and trafficking. To support the negotiations process in Central America with a view to establishing a just, stable and lasting peace; to that end, we pledge to refrain from any action or measure that might hinder the speedy settlement of conflicts, and we call upon all members of the international community to do the same.

(c) To promote the right to development and the establishment of fairer and more equitable international economic relations.

(c bis) To participate actively in the restructuring of multilateral forums, in particular the United Nations system, with a view to attaining a more just and democratic international order which will ensure peace and promote the well-being of peoples.

(d) To promote greater democracy and pluralism in international relations, with full respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and the political independence of States, as well as the sovereign equality and self-determination of peoples.

(e) To create an atmosphere conducive to the holding of consultations on the development and the codification of international law on the basis of consensus, focusing on those issues which, because of their global nature, are particularly urgent. Priority should be given to the following areas: strengthening of the mechanisms for the peaceful settlement of disputes; the rules applicable to armed conflicts; promotion of conventional and nuclear disarmament, as well as disarmament in the field of weapons of mass destruction; promotion of human rights instruments; definition of the legal framework for environmental protection; prevention of drug trafficking; the law of the sea and of outer space; and the transfer of technology.

(f) To strengthen cooperation among Governments and non-governmental and multilateral organizations competent in the field of human rights, and to encourage full accession to both universal and regional international instruments for the promotion and protection of such rights.

(g) To undertake to create or strengthen in our respective countries national mechanisms for promoting, protecting and defending human rights, and to establish close cooperation among those mechanisms.

II. Economic and social development

(h) To strengthen the multilateral system of international trade by promoting better communication and, where appropriate, cooperation among the various integration and cooperation projects in which the Ibero-American countries participate, both in America and Europe, in order to ensure an open world economy.

(i) To contribute to the success of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and to the full implementation of its rules and objectives, to efforts to eliminate protectionism, to the rejection of discrimination in international trade and to fair reciprocity for countries which are making unilateral and regional efforts to expand trade.

(j) To define realistic and pragmatic ways of reinstating the questions of economic development and international cooperation in the multilateral agenda.

(k) To strengthen national and international mechanisms so as to contribute appropriately to the definitive promotion of full enjoyment of rights and the integration of women in society on the basis of complete equality.

(l) To encourage meetings of economic agents in Ibero-America with a view to exchanging experiences and fostering greater ties between them, making use of mutual comparative advantages for trade, investment and technological development. To that end steps could be taken to encourage the establishment of an Ibero-American entrepreneurial organization.

(l bis) It is proposed that, with the support of international organizations, an Ibero-American fund be established for the development of indigenous peoples, so as to resolve favourably those peoples' pressing problems without any hint of "indigenous reservations" or paternalistic compensation.

(m) To support, on the proposal of the President of Mexico, the candidacy of Mr. Carlos Solchaga of Spain for the post of chairman of the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund.

(n) To ensure that measures for the control, reduction and elimination of weapons of mass destruction do not stand in the way of legitimate access to advanced technologies for peaceful uses, which are indispensable for the economic and social development of our peoples.

(o) To promote remedies for environmental deterioration based on full respect for the sovereignty of States over their natural resources and environmental policies, bearing in mind that a country's responsibility is proportionate with its contribution to such degradation. We draw particular attention to the need to prevent, by international means, the use and transfer of polluting technologies. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development is a singular opportunity for expanding international cooperation for development and reversing the global process of environmental degradation.

(p) To promote short-term programmes of cooperation to combat drug trafficking in accordance with the international instruments now in effect, by exchanging information, controlling monetary assets from illicit sources and controlling the production and sale of chemical precursors.

(q) To ask the consumer countries to intensify their efforts to eradicate drug use.

(r) To request industrialized countries and international organizations to provide economic and financial support so that all States affected by drug trafficking may carry out crop substitution and alternative development programmes and also strengthen their judicial and administrative systems. One of the most effective ways of offsetting the socio-economic costs of that struggle is to open markets for the developing countries which undertake the above-mentioned programmes.

(s) To give attention to health issues, particularly to issues of preventive health. We wholeheartedly support the preparation of an emergency plan for the prevention and control of cholera in Ibero-America and for medium- and long-term investments designed to reduce deficiencies in respect of drinking water supply and proper treatment of waste water.

(t) To propose to international credit organizations the feasibility of assisting the countries in the region in their agricultural plans.

III. Education and culture

(u) To identify those areas of education which present comparative advantages in each country and from which benefits might be derived for the Ibero-American region, either for individual countries or for the region as a whole and, based on their priorities, to design specific cooperation programmes at the bilateral or multilateral level.

(v) To promote a common market of information as a forum for knowledge, the arts and culture, liberalizing the exchange of cultural, didactic and educational materials; facilitating the exchange and provision of scientific and technological equipment; and creating incentives for the communication and transmission of data. Similarly, our countries should allocate, within the limits of what they are able to do, funds for launching a technological development project designed to strengthen the capacity to generate innovations so as strengthen industrial competitiveness and social efficiency.

(w) To encourage Ibero-American meetings of experts in the various areas of cultural thought and creation. To invite each country of the region to establish an Ibero-American library as a link for culture, the essence of our community.

(x) To intensify the ties between Ibero-American institutions of higher education.

(y) To expand cultural exchange and fellowship programmes.

(z) To promote the use of existing satellite communications systems in the region, thus helping to improve the ties between the countries of Ibero-America.

In order to achieve the above-mentioned objectives, we have decided to institute a dialogue among the countries of Ibero-America at the highest level. The heads of State and Government, meeting in Guadalajara, Mexico, have decided to establish the Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government consisting of the Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking sovereign States of America and Europe. To that end we shall meet initially in Spain next year, in Brazil in 1993, in Colombo in 1994 and in Argentina in 1995. These meetings will enable us to embark on a political, economic and cultural process which will help our countries together to achieve greater and more efficient integration in a changing global context. We call attention to the advantage of exchanging information on progress made towards the objectives of this Declaration prior to the next Summit.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-sixth session
Item 20 of the provisional agenda*
ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 11 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the recent decision by the Governments of the Republic of Korea and of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to seek prompt admission as full Members of the United Nations.

The Government of Venezuela fully shares in this aspiration of the people and authorities of the Korean peninsula in the conviction that the admission of the two States duly corresponds to the principle of universality enunciated in the Charter and to the wish of that people to expedite and bring to fruition the process of reconciliation and reunification in Korea.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 20 of the provisional agenda and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Diego ARRIA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/46/150.

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Forty-sixth session
Items 22, 27, 30 and 34 of the
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PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE PEACE IN THE WORLD

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

Letter dated 22 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Djibouti to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the communiqué issued at Djibouti on 22 July 1991 at the conclusion of the Second Conference on Somali National Reconciliation, which was held in the Republic of Djibouti from 15 to 21 July 1991. The Conference was held in response to the appeal launched by the President of the Republic of Djibouti, Hajj Hassan Gouled Aptidon, on 7 May 1991 (A/46/168 of 9 May 1991), to convene a meeting bringing together all the parties to the conflicts in Somalia in pursuance of the conclusions of the first Conference (A/46/257 of 14 June 1991).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 22, 27, 30 and 34 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Roble OLHAYE
Ambassador

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* A/46/150.

ANNEX

Communiqué of the second Conference on Somali National Reconciliation issued at Djibouti on 22 July 1991

In pursuance of the conclusions of the first Conference, the Committee of Somali Wise Men and the SSDF, SPM, USC, SDM, SDA and USF movements met again in a second conference on reconciliation of the Somali people.

The Conference, which took place from 15 to 21 July 1991, was officially inaugurated by H.E. Hajj Hassan Gouled Aptidon, President of the Republic of Djibouti. Also participating in the Conference were President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya and President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, representatives of Germany, the United States of America, France, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Yemen, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, the Sudan, Oman, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, China, and representatives of the Arab League, OAU, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, EEC and IGADD.

In his address to the participants, President Hassan Gouled Aptidon clarified the Conference's objectives and warned delegates against mistakes and errors which would prove fatal to the eagerly awaited peace. The President's memorable address included the statement: "The tragic errors of the past must be forgotten and thoughts focused on the interests, well-being and unity of Somalia".

After the President of the Republic of Djibouti, Mr. Aden Abdulle Osman, Chairman of the second Conference, took the floor on behalf of the Committee of Wise Men and representatives of the Somali movements.

Mr. Aden Abdulle Osman thanked the President of the Republic of Djibouti, Hajj Hassan Gouled Aptidon, as well as the Government and people of Djibouti for their fraternal decision to organize this historic Conference in the search for unity and lasting peace in Somalia.

After having heard the recommendations made by representatives of fraternal and friendly countries and the representatives of international bodies, the representatives of the Somali movements decided, during the third day, to establish a 30-member committee to consider the agenda of the Conference.

The movements which took part were SSDF, USC, SDM, SPM, SDA and USF. The 30-member committee, representing all the movements, discussed the following items:

1. Mohamed Siad Barre and his supporters, and adoption of a joint position on their fate;

2. Security and the restoration of peace in the country;

3. The unity of Somalia;

4. The formation of a Government of national unity;

5. Other matters.

The agenda was adopted after a long debate. After further extensive discussion, the different Somali movements in attendance reached agreement on the following resolutions:

1. Mohamed Siad Barre should be the object of a military search carried out by all the movements under the leadership of the Provisional Government and should appear before a legal jurisdiction if taken alive.

2. Cease-fire

(a) A cease-fire between the movements involved in the fratricidal war is to be established with effect from Friday, 26 July 1991;

(b) Each community is enjoined to maintain rigorous respect for the cease-fire and to ensure national security;

(c) Responsibility for verifying the cease-fire and the restoration of peace throughout the country is invested in a Somali committee composed of the wise men, the representatives of the movements and the Provisional Government;

(d) The Provisional Government is authorized to take any measures required to safeguard the country's peace and security.

3. National unity

The Conference unanimously reaffirmed that the unity of the people and Somali national integrity were sacrosanct.

The Assembly reminds the future Government of its duty to consolidate and strengthen the unity of the Somali State and people.

4. Formation of the Government

(a) The Conference provisionally adopted the 1960 Constitution for a period of not more than two years from the date of signature.

The Government shall be established according to the principles decided by agreement between the movements;

(b) The Assembly adopted the principle of the establishment of a 123-member constituent assembly based on the regional demarcations that existed prior to 1969. The assembly shall have a president and two vice-presidents;

(c) The Assembly agreed on the need for regional decentralization and for a constitution to be drafted;

(d) The constitution shall state that Somalia is a member of the League of Arab States and that Somali and Arabic are the official languages;

(e) The Conference appointed Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed President of the Provisional Government of the Republic of Somalia, for a period of two years from the date he is sworn in;

(f) The appointment of two vice-presidents is as follows:

- first vice-president: a member of SDM;

- second vice-president: a member of SSDF or SPM;

(g) The Prime Minister shall be someone from the northern part of the country;

(h) The President of the constituent assembly shall be a member of SSDF or SPM;

(i) The two vice-presidents of this constituent assembly shall be members of SDA and USF respectively;

(j) The Government shall be responsible for drawing up a constitution and for organizing democratic free elections to elect the President of the Republic and members of Parliament.

The Provisional Government shall also be responsible for drawing up a policy safeguarding individual freedom and human rights and a policy of decentralization based on regional autonomy.

5. The Conference agreed to appoint a committee to take stock of the loss of human life and damage resulting from the fratricidal wars and submit an authentic report thereon, and to take stock of the Government's tasks relating thereto.

In conclusion, the representatives of SSDF, SPM, USC, SDM, SDA and USF solemnly swore to abide by the resolutions of this Conference.

The Conference was officially closed on 21 July 1991 by President Hajj Hassan Gouled Aptidon, President of the Republic of Djibouti.

The following heads of delegation endorsed the document:

M. Moussa Islan Farah	Representative of SSDF
M. Omar Ma'allin Mohamed	Representative of SPM
M. Mahamd Farah Mahamoud	Representative of SDA

M. Omar H. Adan	Representative of USC
M. Abdi Moussa Mayow	Representative of SDM
M. Abdirazak Duale Ali	Representative of USF

and signed it in the presence of the following officials, who also signed the final document:

Hon. Aden Abdulle Osman	First President of the Republic of Somalia
Hon. Mohamed H. Ibrahim Egal	Former Prime Minister of Somalia
Hon. Sheikh Mukhtar Mohamed Houssein	Former President of the National Assembly of Somalia
Hon. Abdurazak H. Houssein	Former Prime Minister of Somalia
Hon. Moumin Bahdon Farah	Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Djibouti

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Items 50, 51, 52, 53, 60 (a) and (i)
and 70 of the provisional agenda*

IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 45/48 CONCERNING THE SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL I OF THE TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (TREATY OF TLATELOLCO)

CESSATION OF ALL NUCLEAR-TEST EXPLOSIONS

AMENDMENT OF THE TREATY BANNING NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS IN THE ATMOSPHERE, IN OUTER SPACE AND UNDER WATER

URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: NOTIFICATION OF NUCLEAR TESTS; PROHIBITION OF THE DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION

Letter dated 22 July 1991 from the representatives of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the members of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, we have the honour to request that the attached statement, which was issued by the secretariat of the Commission on 16 July 1991, be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 50, 51, 52, 53, 60 (a) and (i) and 70 of the provisional agenda.

Reaffirming the views set forth in their previous communications of 5 June, 9 and 11 July, 21 and 28 November 1990 and 9 and 28 May, 24 June and

* A/46/150.

16 July 1991, the members of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific once again reject the continuation of nuclear testing by France in view of the grave risk such testing poses to the marine environment and to life in the Pacific basin, and again call for an immediate and permanent end to such tests.

(Signed) Fernando CEPEDA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Colombia to the United Nations

(Signed) James HOLGER
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative of
Chile to the United Nations
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

(Signed) José AYALA LASSO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Ecuador to the United Nations

(Signed) Ricardo LUNA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Peru to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement by the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific
issued at Santiago on 16 July 1991

There have been reports in the media relaying information provided by the Ministry of Defence of France to the effect that on 15 July 1991 France conducted a further nuclear test at Mururoa atoll. This was the sixth such test so far this year and the third since France submitted an arms control and disarmament plan.

This deplorable announcement compels the secretariat to state, once again, the categorical and utter rejection by the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific of such tests in view of the grave risk which they pose to the marine environment and marine resources and the fact that they are in direct contravention of the common policy of the member States of this regional maritime organization for the protection and defence of the marine environment and resources.

Accordingly the secretariat of the Commission, pursuant to the mandate conferred upon it by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member States and the Permanent Commission, reiterates its urgent demand for the immediate and permanent cessation of such tests in the Pacific basin.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 45/48 CONCERNING THE SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL I OF THE TREATY FOR THE PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (TREATY OF TLATELOLCO)

CESSATION OF ALL NUCLEAR-TEST EXPLOSIONS

AMENDMENT OF THE TREATY BANNING NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS IN THE ATMOSPHERE, IN OUTER SPACE AND UNDER WATER

URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT: NOTIFICATION OF NUCLEAR TESTS; PROHIBITION OF THE DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

** A/46/150.

Reaffirming the views set forth in their previous communications of 5 June, 9 and 11 July, 21 and 28 November 1990 and 9 and 28 May, 24 June and 16 July 1991, the members of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific once again reject the continuation of nuclear testing by France in view of the grave risk such testing poses to the marine environment and to life in the Pacific basin, and again call for an immediate and permanent end to such tests.

(Signed) Fernando CEPEDA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Colombia to the United Nations

(Signed) James HOLGER
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative of
Chile to the United Nations
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

(Signed) José AYALA LASSO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Ecuador to the United Nations

(Signed) Ricardo LUNA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Peru to the United Nations

ANNEX

Statement by the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific
issued at Santiago on 16 July 1991

France yesterday conducted another nuclear test at Mururoa Atoll, the sixth this year, according to information provided by the French Ministry of Defence.

In view of such a serious announcement, the secretariat of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (PCSP), faithful to its mandate and to the policy for the protection and defence of the marine environment and sea life adopted jointly by the Governments of Colombia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru as members of this regional maritime organization, reiterates its utter rejection of such tests and its strenuous protest against France's persistence in conducting them despite the grave risk they pose to the marine environment and its resources and the universal outcry of the peoples of the Pacific basin in general, and the member countries of the PCSP in particular, for the immediate and permanent cessation of such tests.

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24 July 1991

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Forty-sixth session
Item 29 of the provisional agenda*

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Letter dated 22 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward to you, enclosed herewith, a position paper of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria on the Declaration of the Secretary-General of the United Nations of 21 May 1991 regarding the settlement of the situation in Afghanistan (see annex).

I would very much appreciate it if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 29 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Dimitar KOSTOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/46/150.

ANNEX

Position Paper of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria on the Declaration of the Secretary-General of the United Nations of 21 May 1991 regarding the settlement of the situation in Afghanistan

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria hereby expresses its full support for the principles enunciated in the Declaration of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, on the finding of a peaceful solution to the problem of Afghanistan which reflect:

The need to preserve the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and non-aligned status of Afghanistan;

The recognition of the right of the Afghan people to determine their own form of government and to choose their economic, political and social system free from outside intervention and coercion;

The need for a transitional period during which a broad-based government could be established through intra-Afghan dialogue, a cessation of hostilities could be achieved and a mechanism neutral and acceptable for the majority of the Afghan people be established for creating conditions for their participation in free and fair elections;

Recognition of the need to reach an agreement on halting all arms shipments to all sides in the conflict;

Recognition of the need to provide adequate financial and material resources for the purpose of alleviating the situation of the Afghan refugees, for creating conditions for their voluntary return to their country, and for the social and economic restoration of Afghanistan.

2. The Republic of Bulgaria will continue to support the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the fulfilment of his mandate granted by resolution 45/12 of 7 November 1990 to initiate the process of peaceful settlement in Afghanistan on the basis of the principles quoted above and for implementing the Afghan people's right to determine their own future.

3. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria welcomes the constructive position adopted by the Afghan Government in respect to the Declaration of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and its readiness to contribute to its implementation as an important factor for a peaceful settlement of the situation in Afghanistan.

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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Letter dated 23 July 1991 from the representatives of Germany and Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit to you the annexed information on the Treaty on Good Neighbourliness and Friendly Cooperation of 17 June 1991 between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Poland.

We should be grateful if you would have the test of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly under items 12, 68, 78 and 99 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Hans-Joachim VERGAU
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations

(Signed) Robert MROZIEWICZ
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Poland to the
United Nations

* A/46/150.

ANNEX

Information concerning the Treaty on Good Neighbourliness and Friendly Cooperation of 17 June 1991 between Germany and Poland

We have the honour to inform you that on 17 June 1991, in Bonn, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Poland signed a Treaty on Good Neighbourliness and Friendly Co-operation.

The Treaty marks the beginning of a new era in the relations between Germany and Poland and constitutes a solid basis for the co-operation between the two countries in the interest of stability and peace in Europe.

The Treaty is oriented towards the future. It places the bilateral relationship between Germany and Poland in the context of the development towards a united Europe.

In its preamble, the Treaty refers to the political will to close the painful chapters of the past and to resume the good traditions and the friendly coexistence of Germans and Poles in the centuries-long history of the two countries. It stresses the need to create a new Europe, free of divisions and based on the principles of freedom, the respect of the law, of human rights and democracy. In the preamble, the contracting Parties also refer to the Treaty of 14 November 1990 between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Poland concerning the Confirmation of the Frontier Existing between them.

The Parties to the Treaty confirm their will to preserve peace and to prevent war. They express their respect for international law, in particular for the United Nations Charter and the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Charter of Paris for a new Europe of 21 November 1990 and the other documents of the CSCE.

They pledge to respect their mutual sovereignty, their territorial integrity and the inviolability of their borders.

The Treaty provides for regular consultations to be held and for the heads of Governments and Ministers of Foreign Affairs to meet as frequently as needed and at least once a year.

The two contracting Parties, acknowledging the changing political and military environment in Europe, express their common goal to strive for increased stability and security and declare themselves ready to co-operate to use the new opportunities arising for joint efforts in the field of security. They advocate that armed forces and armaments be reduced by means of binding and effectively verifiable agreements to the lowest possible levels sufficient for defence but not for attack.

An important part of the Treaty is devoted to economic co-operation, in particular in the fields of investment and industrial co-operation. Germany commits itself to promoting to the best of its ability the creation of closer links between Poland and the European Community. Germany views favourably the prospect of Poland joining the European Community once the appropriate conditions exist.

The Treaty provides for a comprehensive framework for a further development and intensification of co-operation and exchange in a broad range of areas, in particular culture, science and technology, communications and transport, environment, media, tourism, social, legal and administrative affairs, the teaching of the languages of the two countries and the conservation of their cultural heritage.

It sets the basis for a new form of transboundary co-operation between the bordering regions of Germany and Poland as well as for inter-regional co-operation.

The Treaty contains detailed provisions for persons belonging to the German minority in Poland as well as for persons of Polish descent, language, culture or traditions in Germany. It follows from an exchange of letters between the foreign ministers of the contracting Parties that these treaty provisions may further be developped in the future.

The Treaty provides for the promotion of wide-ranging direct contacts between the citizens of both countries, in particular between the members of the young generation. These provisions are based on the conviction of both Governments that the development of human contacts between their peoples is an indispensable prerequisite of understanding and reconciliation.

Germany and Poland are convinced that the Treaty is of great historic importance. It settles issues most vital to both our nations as to Europe as a whole. We express our hope that the United Nations Community is witnessing the contribution of our two countries to the creation of a new quality in international relations.

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THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA
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DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
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ECONOMIC COOPERATION
EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT
REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES,
QUESTIONS RELATING TO REFUGEES
AND DISPLACED PERSONS AND
HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 22 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations of the States members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the joint communiqué of the twenty-fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, issued at Kuala Lumpur on 20 July 1991 (see annex).

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* A/46/150.

I should be grateful if you could arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 24, 33, 35, 37, 68, 78, 82 and 98 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sedfrey A. ORDONEZ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Joint communiqué of the twenty-fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting issued at Kuala Lumpur on 20 July 1991

Introduction

1. The twenty-fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting was held at Kuala Lumpur on 19 and 20 July 1991. The meeting was formally opened by the Honourable Dato' Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia.

2. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam; His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia; His Excellency Datuk Abdullah bin Ahmad Badawi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia; His Excellency Mr. Raul S. Manglapus, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines; His Excellency Mr. Wong Kan Seng, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore; His Excellency Mr. Arsa Sarasin, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, and their respective delegations.

3. His Excellency Mr. Rusli Noor, Secretary-General of the ASEAN secretariat, and his staff were also present.

4. His Excellency Sir Michael Somare, GCMG, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Papua New Guinea, attended the open session as an observer.

5. His Excellency Mr. Yuri Maslyukov, Deputy Prime Minister of the Soviet Union, and His Excellency Mr. Qian Qichen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, attended the open session as guests of the Government of Malaysia.

6. His Excellency Datuk Abdullah bin Ahmad Badawi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, chaired the Meeting. His Excellency Mr. Raul S. Manglapus, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, was elected Vice-Chairman.

OPENING ADDRESS

7. In his opening address, the Honourable Dato' Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia, stated that, in the ASEAN experience, member countries had learnt that both at the national and regional levels, peace and security, democracy and freedom as well as stability were possible and sustainable only when the people were free from economic deprivation and had a stake in the national life. He disagreed, however, that democracy had only one definition or that political systems qualified as democratic only when they measured up to certain particular yardsticks. Therefore, when the issue of human rights was linked to trade, investment and finance, ASEAN could not but view it as added conditionalities and protectionism by other means. On

the question of security, the Prime Minister said it was from a strong ASEAN base that one should approach the question of peace and security of the immediate wider environment in the Asia-Pacific region. ASEAN had already made its mark in terms of geopolitics. It is equally important that ASEAN should be made relevant in terms of geostrategy. Regionalism in South-East Asia had to be brought to a higher plane from the process of communication and consultation to that of conscious and organized interdependence between all the States of the region.

8. The Prime Minister emphasized that at the present time of uncertain global economic developments brought about by trade disputes between the economic super-Powers, rising protectionism and closed regionalism, ASEAN and the other East Asian countries must act in concert to maintain an open global trading system. He felt that a strong and united ASEAN could bring the East Asia economic group into shape for the benefit of all. He stressed that ASEAN must proceed to a higher plane of cooperation, collective action and self-reliance in order to have an effective voice in the international, interregional and multilateral forums. He called upon ASEAN member States to exercise collective will to achieve the objectives of greater trade liberalization and integration of the ASEAN economies. He supported the recent proposal made by His Excellency the Prime Minister of Thailand for the establishment of a free trade area by the turn of the century. He believed in the need for a strong and effective ASEAN secretariat to bring about an increase in the substance of ASEAN economic cooperation.

INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL SITUATION

9. The Foreign Ministers had an extensive exchange of views on the latest international developments. They noted that the emerging strategic relationships that evolved following the end of the Cold War and their impact were as yet unclear. This was further blurred by evolving international economic alignments as well as efforts to make environmental concerns and human rights considerations new conditionalities in development assistance and inter-State relations.

10. The Foreign Ministers welcomed the positive developments in Central and Eastern Europe, which had contributed to the improvement of the political and economic climate, particularly in Europe. The Foreign Ministers noted with concern the instability prevailing in the region and urged that differences be resolved peacefully. They also noted that Central and Eastern European countries required assistance in their reform and reconstruction efforts. In recognizing those needs, they expressed the hope that the developed countries would maintain their interest and continue to make available new and additional resources to developing countries and, in particular, to the countries in South-East Asia.

11. The Foreign Ministers noted that the evolving international environment had implications for the rapidly developing East Asia region. They welcomed the generally improving situation in the broader Asia-Pacific region, but noted that there remained areas and issues that required attention.

12. The Foreign Ministers took note of the increasing interest in issues relating to peace and security in the region. They were of the view that the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality in South-East Asia (ZOPFAN), the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in South-East Asia and the PMC (Post-Ministerial Conferences) process were appropriate bases for addressing the regional peace and security issues in the 1990s.

13. The Foreign Ministers reiterated that ASEAN, in responding to the challenges of the 1990s, should be more dynamic and forward-looking. ASEAN should strengthen itself and intensify intraregional cooperation. They expressed the hope that the non-ASEAN South-East Asian nations could find it possible to participate in the activities of the region. They also recognized that ASEAN and other countries in the East Asia region and the broader Asia-Pacific region should engage in regular constructive consultations.

14. In this connection, the Foreign Ministers noted the report of the Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Philippines on the seminar on the theme "ASEAN and the Asia-Pacific Region: Prospects for Security Cooperation in the 1990s", which was organized by his Department and held at Manila from 5 to 7 June 1991, with the participation of senior experts from the government and academic sectors of ASEAN and a number of other countries. The Foreign Ministers further noted that a second seminar on the same theme, to be organized by the International Study Centre, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, would be held in Thailand in November 1991, and that the objective of the two seminars was to provide an opportunity for a frank and informal discussion by recognized experts, which could be of interest to Governments, on the requirements of security and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, with a special focus on South-East Asia, during the present decade and beyond. The Foreign Ministers regarded those initiatives as useful and constructive building blocks for the enhancement of regional security.

15. The Foreign Ministers exchanged views on the issue of human rights and noted with concern its tendentious application in inter-State relations. They agreed that while human rights were universal in character, implementation in the national context should remain within the competence and responsibility of each country, having regard for the complex variety of economic, social and cultural realities. They emphasized that the international application of human rights could not be narrow and selective, nor should it violate the sovereignty of nations.

CAMBODIA

16. The Foreign Ministers reviewed the latest developments regarding the situation in Cambodia and the continuing efforts within the negotiating process of the Paris Conference of Cambodia (PCC), as well as the efforts of all concerned countries and, in particular, the Cambodian parties, to achieve a comprehensive political settlement. They reiterated their support for the continuing efforts of the Co-Chairmen of PCC to reconvene, at the earliest possible date, the Paris Conference on Cambodia with a view to finalizing the draft agreements.

17. The Foreign Ministers welcomed the framework document on a comprehensive political settlement agreed to by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council in August 1990. The Foreign Ministers noted with satisfaction the agreement achieved by the Cambodian parties at the Jakarta Informal Meeting on 10 September 1990 to the framework document in its entirety as the basis for settling the Cambodian conflict as well as the establishment of the Supreme National Council (SNC) of Cambodia.

18. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their full support for the said framework document unanimously endorsed by the United Nations Security Council in its resolution 668 (1990) of 20 September 1990 and by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 45/3 of 15 October 1990. The framework document constituted a major contribution and had become the basis for the efforts to achieve a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian question.

19. They expressed satisfaction with the elaboration of the framework document into the draft agreements on a comprehensive political settlement by the Co-Chairmen of PCC and the five permanent members of the Security Council at the Paris meeting, held from 23 to 26 November 1990. They noted that SNC had agreed to most of the fundamental points of the draft agreements at its meeting with the Co-Chairmen of PCC. However, they expressed concern that the involved parties were still far apart on some aspects of the remaining issues pertaining to military arrangements, genocide and the role of the United Nations during the transitional period.

20. The Foreign Ministers welcomed His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's initiative in convening and presiding over the meeting of SNC at Pattaya from 24 to 26 June 1991. They also welcomed the final communiqué of the meeting, in particular, the decision to set up the SNC headquarters at Phnom Penh, as well as the agreements on the unlimited cease-fire and cessation of foreign arms supply. They urged SNC to work out as soon as possible with the United Nations the modalities for the control and monitoring of the cease-fire and the cessation of foreign arms supply.

21. The Foreign Ministers reemphasized the fundamental right of Cambodians to choose their own government in free and fair elections supervised by the United Nations. They reiterated that human rights in Cambodia should be fully protected. They also expressed the view that any settlement should prevent the return to the genocidal practices and policies of the past and that no Cambodian party should be allowed to seize or retain power through force of arms.

22. They recorded their appreciation to His Excellency Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary-General, for his valuable efforts in finding a comprehensive political settlement to the Cambodian problem. They also expressed their thanks to His Excellency Mr. Rafeeuddin Ahmed, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs in South-East Asia, and welcomed his presence at the twenty-fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting.

INDOCHINESE ASYLUM SEEKERS

23. The Foreign Ministers expressed their deep concern that, notwithstanding two years of efforts in implementing the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA), countries of temporary refuge (CTR) were no nearer to a durable solution of the problem of the Vietnamese boat people. The total number of Vietnamese boat people in camps of the affected CTR remained as high as in 1979.

24. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their commitment to the objectives of CPA and reaffirmed the importance of a balanced and coordinated implementation of the plan that must lead to the resettlement of all refugees in third countries and repatriation of non-refugees to Viet Nam within the time-frame agreed to at the 1989 International Conference on Indochinese Refugees at Geneva.

25. The Foreign Ministers noted with satisfaction the resettlement of the pre-cut-off-date arrivals, which had exceeded the targets set for the first two years of CPA's implementation as well as the expansion of the orderly departure programme. In this connection, they expressed their deep appreciation to all parties concerned for their cooperation.

26. While acknowledging the significant decline in recent months in the arrivals of the Vietnamese boat people to ASEAN countries concerned, the Foreign Ministers urged Viet Nam to tighten measures to check the clandestine departures of its people to avoid a reversal of the situation.

27. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their position that the viability of CPA required the urgent resolution of the fundamental question of repatriation to Viet Nam of all boat people who were determined to be non-refugees. In that connection, they expressed their deep concern at the increasing number of that category of people who had refused repatriation. The Foreign Ministers emphasized that the continuation of such a situation was unacceptable. In recalling the Jakarta Joint Statement of 24 July 1990 by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the problem of the Vietnamese boat people, they urged that internationally managed centres in Viet Nam for non-refugees, as envisaged in CPA, be established as an effective intermediate solution to involuntary repatriation.

28. The Foreign Ministers expressed their appreciation for the role played by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in supporting international efforts to solve the problem and welcomed his readiness to monitor all non-refugees back to Viet Nam, regardless of their mode of return. In this connection, they called on the international community to provide UNHCR with the necessary financial resources for those purposes.

MIDDLE EAST

29. The Foreign Ministers reviewed the situation in the Middle East in the post-Gulf War period. They welcomed the restoration of the legitimate Government of Kuwait and reaffirmed their commitment to the sovereignty, unity and independence and territorial integrity of all countries in the region.

30. The Foreign Ministers emphasized that the immediate post-war period was an opportune moment to address the fundamental causes of instability within the region, in particular the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian question. They took note of the efforts of the United States in promoting peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian question. They reaffirmed their support for the convening of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations to work out a peace settlement. In this connection, they stressed the need to adhere to the Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), which would uphold the right to security of all States in the region, including that of Israel, and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination with all that this implied, in particular, their right to a homeland.

31. The Foreign Ministers deplored the continuing establishment of illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied territories in defiance of Security Council resolutions.

SOUTH AFRICA

32. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their total rejection of the system of apartheid and reaffirmed their commitment to its complete elimination so that a new, non-racist, united and democratic society could be built in its place. While welcoming the repeal of apartheid legislations in South Africa, they stressed that those reforms must in reality lead to the attainment by the black majority population of South Africa of all political, economic and social rights enjoyed by the whites, to be guaranteed within the framework of a new constitution of South Africa.

33. The Foreign Ministers noted with concern the continuing inter-factional violence in South Africa, which had impeded the process of working towards the drafting of a new non-racist and democratic constitution. They called on the regime of South Africa to fulfil its responsibilities in maintaining law and order and urged leaders of all parties to restrain their followers and promote an atmosphere of political tolerance.

34. Recognizing the positive developments taking place in South Africa, they were of the view that the phased lifting of sanctions should be commensurate with progress towards the achievement of irreversible change and towards the attainment of an apartheid-free South Africa.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES

35. The Foreign Ministers reviewed the international economic situation. They expressed their concern at the present global economic slowdown and the adverse impact it had on the trade and growth of developing countries. They called for greater efforts to stimulate global economic growth by finding solutions to the problems of high inflation, low growth rates, debt overhang and increasing trade protectionism. They also noted the increasing competing demand for capital and investment resources from Eastern Europe, from the indebted countries of Asia, Latin America and Africa, as well as to meet the needs of reconstruction in the Gulf and in the Soviet Union.

36. The Foreign Ministers reiterated the need to increase global savings to deal with the shortage of funds needed for reconstruction and structural adjustments. They agreed that this should be accompanied by effective utilization of funds to support well-designed economic policies and programmes.

37. On the external debt problem, the Foreign Ministers welcomed some progress made in resolving the debt crisis. Nevertheless, the Foreign Ministers viewed with concern the continuing high level of debt, which impinged on sustainable growth and development. The Foreign Ministers urged that a coordinated tripartite approach involving debtors, creditor countries and financial institutions be undertaken to speed up debt relief efforts and to allow for recovery to take place in the countries concerned. They took note of the recent write-off of bilateral official debts of selected countries and expressed the hope that they would be extended to the other indebted countries as well. They also recognized that indebted developing countries were dependent on agriculture. Therefore, in order to reach a permanent long-term solution, it was of utmost urgency that the markets for agricultural products in developed countries be liberalized.

38. The Foreign Ministers expressed disappointment over the failure of of the Brussels Ministerial Meeting to conclude successfully the Uruguay Round of the multilateral trade negotiations. Concerned with the slow pace of the resumed negotiations, the Foreign Ministers called upon all participants, especially the developed countries, to exert the necessary political will to ensure that negotiations get under way in a purposeful manner to enable their early and successful conclusion. They expressed the hope that there would be comprehensive and balanced results, which took into account the interest of all parties, especially the developmental needs and concerns of developing countries.

39. The Foreign Ministers reiterated that environment and development were interrelated and mutually reinforcing. Economic development was as much an inherent right of the people as it was a pressing responsibility for Governments in developing countries. The Ministers agreed that the measures for the protection of the environment should support economic growth and sustainable development.

40. The Foreign Ministers, in reaffirming their determination to work together for the success of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, scheduled to take place in Brazil in 1992, stressed that any global initiative should be balanced in approach and take into account the interests of both developing and developed countries. The concept of equitable sharing of responsibilities and the ability of developing countries to respond to environmental challenges should be taken into account.

41. The Foreign Ministers called upon developed countries to give substantial assistance to developing countries by providing new and additional resources, and transfer of and access to environmentally sound technologies. They should also assist in ensuring a supportive international economic environment that would promote economic growth and development in developing countries.

42. The Foreign Ministers noted the dynamic performance of East Asian economies in an environment of declining global growth and increasing protectionism in the international trading system. They called upon East Asian countries to strengthen economic cooperation further and to increase interdependence among them so as to enhance trade and investment flows in the region, which would also contribute to global growth and development.

43. The Foreign Ministers expressed their view that the emerging global economic order must be one that provides for more equal economic opportunities for all nations, an important feature of which should be the strengthening of an open international trading system. The Ministers expressed their resolve to exert all efforts towards that end.

INTRA-ASEAN COOPERATION

44. The Foreign Ministers reviewed intra-ASEAN cooperation over the last year and welcomed the various measures, activities and programmes of action carried out by the ASEAN Economic Ministers and the Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry, Energy, Environment, Information, Labour, Science and Technology and Social Affairs. They also commended the continuing efforts and cooperation of the drug agencies and non-governmental organizations in ASEAN in combating drug abuse and illicit trafficking. Those activities clearly reflected the broad front of intra-ASEAN cooperation.

45. The Foreign Ministers noted that there now existed a growing awareness of the need for ASEAN to be a dynamic, vibrant and resilient organization in order to face the growing political and economic challenges of the 1990s. They took note that the twenty-fourth ASEAN Standing Committee had paid particular attention to that problem and welcomed the various efforts, measures and initiatives taken to meet that goal.

46. They noted, in particular, that a number of studies to strengthen intra-ASEAN cooperation had been commissioned. These included the review of the ASEAN-United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) technical cooperation programme; the study on ASEAN economic cooperation for the 1990s; the study of

the exclusion lists to enhance the level of PTA trade in intra-ASEAN trade, and the annual ASEAN macroeconomic outlook.

47. The Foreign Ministers also welcomed and adopted the recommendations of the ASEAN Standing Committee on the new criteria and the guidelines for the generation and selection of projects, which arose out of the study on the review of the ASEAN-UNDP technical cooperation programme. They were confident that a more ASEAN-centric approach would now be taken in project planning and formulation and that those projects would conform to the main themes of the human development of the ASEAN region's human resource potential and sustainable economic reform through the expansion and intensification of ASEAN economic cooperation.

48. The Foreign Ministers also endorsed the recommendation of the twenty-fourth ASEAN Standing Committee to establish an ASEAN cooperation unit in the ASEAN secretariat with the initial assistance of UNDP. They expressed their confidence that there would now be a more professional and integrated approach to the formulation and implementation of projects. They called on the twenty-fifth ASEAN Standing Committee to work out the details of its establishment as soon as possible.

49. The Foreign Ministers, in recalling the decision of the twenty-third ASEAN Ministerial Meeting to establish a panel of five eminent persons to look into the strengthening and the revamping of the mechanism and structure of ASEAN, in particular the ASEAN secretariat, expressed appreciation to members of the panel, headed by H.E. Tan Sri Muhammad Ghazali Shafie, for their report. They also expressed appreciation to UNDP for assisting in the study.

50. The Foreign Ministers noted that the report had been discussed extensively in ASEAN. They agreed that while many of the recommendations in the report merited full support and could be implemented immediately, there were certain aspects that needed further study. In view of that, they agreed that a working group be established under the chairmanship of Dato' Paduka Lim Jock Seng to study those aspects of the report which still need further deliberations, with a view to submitting its recommendations to the fourth ASEAN Summit.

51. The Foreign Ministers had an exchange of views on the future of ASEAN's external relations. They mandated the same working group under the chairmanship of Dato' Paduka Lim Jock Seng to study and make recommendations on the direction and form those relationships should take in future in the best interest of ASEAN.

52. The Foreign Ministers welcomed the opportunity provided by the informal meetings between the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and the Deputy Prime Minister of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China respectively to have discussions on a wide range of issues. These discussions represented the beginning of a process of consultations between ASEAN and the two countries.

53. The Foreign Ministers noted that the proposed ASEAN treaty of economic cooperation had been considered by the Standing Committee, Senior Official's Meeting and senior economic officials and the Secretary-General. The Foreign Ministers, in considering the UNDP-assisted study on ASEAN economic cooperation in the 1990s, noted the report of the Secretary-General that the study would be finalized by 10 November 1991. In view of that, the twenty-fifth ASEAN Standing Committee was directed to consider the study for final submission to the fourth Summit in January 1992.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FREE TRADE AREA

54. The Foreign Ministers welcomed as a matter for serious consideration the initiative of His Excellency the Prime Minister of Thailand, which was supported by the Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia, that ASEAN move towards a free trade area by the turn of the century and agreed that the senior officials of ASEAN should undertake further study and discussion for submission to the forthcoming ASEAN Summit.

FOURTH ASEAN SUMMIT

55. The Foreign Ministers noted that, after consultations, the ASEAN Heads of Government had agreed to hold the fourth ASEAN Summit on 27 and 28 January 1992 in Singapore. They were of the view that it was timely to convene another summit to chart new directions to enhance intra-ASEAN cooperation. They directed the ASEAN senior officials and the ASEAN Directors-General to continue to work together with the senior economic officials in preparing for the fourth ASEAN Summit.

COOPERATION WITH DIALOGUE COUNTRIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

56. The Foreign Ministers expressed satisfaction at the progress of ASEAN's relations with its dialogue partners, namely, Australia, Canada, the European Community (EEC), Japan, New Zealand, the United States and UNDP. They continued to attach great importance to those relations, which had helped to create a special partnership in collaborative endeavours between ASEAN and the dialogue partners. They noted the new trend in ASEAN's dialogue relations from that of a donor-recipient to one of a mature and balanced relationship. They called for a further strengthening of the partnership for their mutual benefit.

57. The Foreign Ministers also expressed their appreciation for all the assistance rendered by the dialogue partners, in particular in the implementation of various projects. They also welcomed the flexibility shown by the dialogue partners in responding to ASEAN's changing priorities and in broadening and seeking new areas of cooperation. In this regard, they agreed that future activities should focus on human resource development, science and technology, trade, industry, investment and environment. They also noted that

the various consultative mechanisms that existed within the framework of those relations had proven particularly useful in raising issues such as market access, trade disputes and in the promotion of joint ventures and called for their continued use.

58. The Foreign Ministers were also pleased to note that the participation of the private sector in the dialogue process was accepted by nearly all the dialogue partners and that such participation had proven beneficial to all sides. They expressed the hope that the ASEAN private sector, for its part, would take full advantage of the opportunities now being offered and play its assigned role as the engine of growth in ASEAN.

59. The Ministers noted with concern the increasing tendency to link the issues of environmental protection and human rights to development and commercial cooperation. They stressed that those issues should not be used as conditionality for aid and development financing.

ELEVATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO FULL DIALOGUE STATUS AND ITS PARTICIPATION AT THE POST-MINISTERIAL CONFERENCES

60. Taking into account the very close economic cooperation existing between ASEAN countries and the Republic of Korea, the Foreign Ministers adopted the recommendation of the twenty-fourth ASEAN Standing Committee that the Republic of Korea be granted full dialogue status. The Foreign Ministers also agreed that consequent upon this decision, the Republic of Korea be invited to participate at the forthcoming Post-Ministerial Conference and at future conferences as a dialogue partner.

ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION COUNCIL

61. The Foreign Ministers expressed satisfaction with the results of the second APEC Ministerial Meeting held in Singapore from 29 to 31 July 1990. They reiterated that ASEAN's participation in the APEC process would continue to be governed by the principles they had agreed to at their last ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, held at Jakarta in July 1990. They also agreed that the issues concerning the Uruguay Round and trade liberalization measures remained the priority issues for them. They were of the view that there should be no proliferation of work projects and agreed that the ongoing projects should not exceed 10 in number at any one time so as not to dissipate the scarce resources available to them. They also affirmed that in the implementation of those projects due account had to be taken of the different level of development of the countries and that the developing countries of the region had to be given special treatment. They also noted that consultations were proceeding in finding appropriate modalities in bringing the People's Republic of China, Taiwan and Hong Kong into the APEC process and expressed the hope that the matter could be resolved soon.

EAST ASIA ECONOMIC GROUP

62. The Foreign Ministers considered the summary records of the first meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on the East Asia Economic Group (EAEG), which was held at Kuala Lumpur on 4 and 5 July 1991, and expressed satisfaction at the progress made in further studying the concept of EAEG. They agreed that there was a need to examine further and advance the proposal. In that regard, they decided that further meetings were necessary and that the second meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on EAEG should take place in Singapore and that the report of the meeting should be submitted to the Foreign Ministers and to the ASEAN Economic Ministers when they met at Kuala Lumpur on 7 and 8 October 1991.

TWENTY-FIFTH ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING

63. The Foreign Ministers agreed that the twenty-fifth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting would be held in the Philippines in June/July 1992.

64. The delegations of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand expressed their sincere and deep appreciation to the Government and people of Malaysia for the warm and generous hospitality and excellent facilities and arrangements made for the meeting.

65. The meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN friendship and solidarity.